



A surfing competition in Porthcawl. (See page 7).

# GEM



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13TH, 2011

## TEENAGER SPARED CUSTODY

– thanks to victim's 'generosity of spirit'

A YOUNG MAN has been spared a custodial sentence at Cardiff Crown Court because of the "generosity of spirit" of a caravanner whom he struck on the head with a large piece of rock.

Victim Mark Lanyon was taken to the Princess of Wales Hospital where four stitches were put into a

### CROWN COURT REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

cut, and he also had cuts and abrasions to his arms and face.

James Atkins, 18, of Neville Road, Porthcawl, was sentenced to a community order involving two years supervision and 250 hours unpaid work.

Atkins was also directed to observe a curfew for three months from 9pm to 6am.

He had admitted a charge of wounding.

Sam Hodgson, 19, of Long Acre Drive, Nottage, and Carl Heffy, 19, of Blundell Avenue, Porthcawl, were each made subject to a community order for one year and directed to carry out 150 hours unpaid work.

The two admitted a charge of affray. Prosecutor David Elias said that on April 25, Mr Lanyon and his family were at his caravan in Trecco Bay. Soon after midnight, the defendants walked past swearing and were told to be quiet.

Atkins shouted: "\*\*\*\* off, you geriatric."

Mr Elias said that Mr Lanyon braced himself for an attack, scuffled with Atkins, and the two others then became involved.

He went to the ground, where all three kicked him. Members of the family tried to pull the defendants off. Matters calmed down but Atkins picked up a large piece of rock and threw it at Mr Lanyon, cutting him on the back of the head.

Security guards were called and detained the trio, said Mr Elias.

Atkins was said to have a conviction for inflicting grievous bodily harm on a youth in Porthcawl, causing him to suffer a broken jaw, which required surgery.

The other two had no previous convictions.

Mr Elias said Mr Lanyon wanted the court to know that he had brought up two children without any trouble, had sympathy for the families of the defendants and he hoped the court would

give them a chance.

Mike Hammet, for Atkins, said he wrote Mr Lanyon a letter of apology.

"You might feel he is too quick to use his fists. He has boxed for seven years, doesn't take drugs or drink to excess."

There were, said Mr Hammet, glowing references.

Christopher James, for Heffy, said there was genuine remorse, regret, empathy and shame, and he knew nothing about the piece of rock: "He is terrified of the consequences."

Simon Stephenson, for Hodgson, said: "This offence is out of character. He wanted to join the police force, but that is out."

"He hopes to become a teacher and football coach."

"He won't go out and has withdrawn into his shell."

Judge David Wynn-Morgan told Atkins: "This is the second time at the age of 18 you have been before the court."

"You picked up a rock and threw it at a man's head." But, said the judge, the victim made "astounding remarks" and had shown generosity of spirit and it was only because of his view that he was not imposing a custodial sentence.

He warned Atkins that this was the last time the court wanted to see him.

"The next time, you are going into custody."

He told the other two: "I understand that neither of you started what happened that night, but you both overreacted."

"Never again darken the doors of this court."

## 'THIS INCIDENT IS CALLOUS'

These gorgeous kittens were left in a handbag and survived only through good fortune

Photograph by Mandy Thomas (www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk)



## SHOCK AS KITTENS ARE DUMPED IN HANDBAG!

THE Cats Protection's Bridgend adoption centre is pleading with owners not to dump their cats, after a handbag containing seven kittens was found outside the centre's gates.

A passer-by discovered the zipped PVC handbag by chance a few minutes after it was left, and opened it to find the kittens, some of whom were semi-conscious due to lack of oxygen and heat exhaustion.

The kittens were seen by a local vet, who confirmed the kittens would not have survived if they hadn't been discovered so soon.

Sue Dobbs, the centre manager, said: "I have seen many cats and kittens abandoned in the 13 years I have been working at the centre, but this incident was particularly callous. The kittens were dumped when we were closed with a total disregard for their welfare."

"I took the kittens out of the bag and was totally aghast that anyone would be capable of such an act. I am very grateful that they were found so quickly. Thankfully they are making a good recovery and will shortly be available for homing."

Molly Hughes, deputy manager said:

**Cats Protection, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9UJ**  
Tel: 01656 726621 • Fax: 01656 722012  
Email: [bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk](mailto:bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk)

"Abandoned cats and kittens are a big problem, as the centre is normally filled to capacity with more than 230."

"We also have a waiting list of 300+ cats and kittens at any one time, many of whom have been waiting for several months."

"Though there is a tendency to regard cats as independent animals, they are like any other pet and need a loving owner to provide them with shelter, food,

warmth and veterinary care. However, we seem to be living in a throw-away society where some people think nothing of just getting rid of innocent, new born kittens and older cats, and I think it is an extremely sad state of affairs."

For advice about caring for a cat, or to offer a cat a home, please call the Bridgend Adoption Centre on 01656 724396.

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- Red Pepper, Courgette & Aubergine & Feta Moussaka (All served with seasonal vegetables)
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- Chocolate Roulade.
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Play free for one month when purchasing Bijou membership!



# Dutch approach to prostitution and drugs 'not the way forward for us'

**WHAT would be your reaction if David Cameron decided to pay £10million to buy a brothel or a property used to sell cannabis?**

I visited the Netherlands as part of the Parliamentary Police Scheme to look at the structure of Dutch policing and their policies relating to drugs and prostitution.

Next year in England and Wales we face a dramatic change in police structures when we elect a Police and Crime Commissioner for each of our 43 police forces. I have written many times about my opposition to this change, which I feel

with bring political involvement in policing in an unprecedented way.

At present there are 25 regional police forces across the Netherlands, covering a population of just over 16.5 million. In January they will merge into one national police force led by one Police Commissioner. The Minister of Security and Justice (our Home Secretary) sets the framework within which the commissioner performs his duties and sets national police priorities and budgets.

The Police Commissioner in The Netherlands is the equivalent of our Chief Constable and is not an elected official. Policing exists within a tri-partite

structure composed of the Police Commissioner, the Public Prosecutor and the Mayor. We are used to close working between the Crown Prosecution Service and the police; we are not used to the idea of unelected mayors having a say in local policing.

Within the Netherlands, mayors are nominated by the local controlling political party to undertake an executive office role including responsibility for security and public order issues. Many mayors move outside of this limited role and involve themselves in wider policing issues. It is hard for us to imagine an unelected person being given so much

power without a public mandate, but it appears to work for the Dutch.

The Mayor of Amsterdam, along with the Police Commissioner, Public Prosecutor and the City Council for Amsterdam, have agreed there is a need for a change of approach to their drugs and prostitution policy.

Amsterdam is known the world over for its red light district and cannabis-selling coffee shops.

The Netherlands led the world in legalising prostitution in designated districts and the purchase and consumption of up to 5gm of cannabis. What is not widely known is that the cannabis sold in the coffee shops is bought from drug dealers, not

from a state-owned or licensed source. In effect, criminal elements have been given legal outlets for the results of illegal drug smuggling/growing, people trafficking and pimping.

In a new policy being developed to tackle the criminal infrastructure that feeds off the brothels and coffee shops in the heart of this beautiful old city, the number of these businesses are to be reduced.

The aim is to halve the brothel windows and coffee shops so that there can be more effective and efficient enforcement by police and other regulators. Buildings used to house brothels and/or coffee shops are being bought up. House prices in the

red light district of Amsterdam are similar to those of Knightsbridge in London - hence the £10m mentioned at the start of this article.

The Amsterdam coffee shops can legally sell five grams of cannabis for personal use. The cannabis is illegally grown under lights in tents indoors. When shown one of these tent farms by Europol, we were told that over 7,000 are seized in the UK each year. The UK is one of the biggest markets for cannabis, sales worth 70m Euros a day in Europe.

Tourists will no longer be able to buy drugs in the coffee shops, which will be for use of Dutch citizens

## WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

**Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON writes an exclusive column from Westminster for The GEM.**



only.

At Schiphol railway station we watched as dogs trained to sniff out drugs identified a number of people who had used or were carrying drugs. Carrying one gram of cocaine is also legal in the Netherlands.

In the airport, we visited the holding complex where suspected smugglers are held while under investigation.

Cocaine is the drug of choice for smugglers, who conceal them about their person or in suitcases, toys, souvenirs, bottles or clothing in an attempt to evade customs and police. In less than 10 years, over

20,000 couriers have been arrested. Drugs mules carrying on average 900 grams of cocaine, swallowed in 100-gram balls, make up 50 per cent of arrests.

My time in the Netherlands confirmed my belief that providing legal markets for criminals to sell drugs does not solve the problem; it increases it. Having seen the often desperate women, many of whom had been trafficked, behind the red light windows being gawked at by tourists I cannot agree legalisation is the way forward for us.

**Madeleine Moon, Bridgend MP**

## EXPERTS MEET IN BID TO SAVE SAND DUNES



Specialists from around the UK travelled to Kenfig National Nature Reserve in Bridgend County Borough to discuss ways of protecting sand dune systems

**SAND dune specialists have met in Kenfig to discuss ways of saving threatened dune habitats from extinction.**

Kenfig National Nature Reserve and the Countryside Council for Wales joined forces for the recent conference, focusing on problems with the UK's ever-changing dune system.

Sand dune specialists from Holland, England, Wales and Scotland gathered at the reserve centre to discuss methods of dune rejuvenisation, and used the famous sand dunes at Kenfig as a case study for what could be done at other sites around the UK.

Guest speaker Dr Bas Arens from

Holland addressed the delegates on issues including dune remobilisation, dune rejuvenation and habitat rescue.

David Carrington, reserve manager, said: "Britain's sand dunes are not active, they are sleeping. We are in danger of losing them, and if we don't take action, the species that rely on sand dune habitats will soon become extinct."

"Dr Arens' advice was particularly useful as dune specialists in Holland are a lot more advanced in trying to reactivate their sand dune environments, and we can learn from their efforts."

For more information, contact Kenfig National Nature Reserve on 01656 743386.

## Free car parking in the run-up to Christmas

**BRIDGEND County Borough Council will again provide free car parking at all council-run public car parks in Bridgend and Porthcawl in the run-up to Christmas 2011.**

The free car parking will be available in Bridgend and Porthcawl after 2pm from December 12-17, after 10am from December 19-24, all day at the council's Sunnyside Offices in Bridgend on Saturday, December 10, 17 and 24, and also on Sunday, December 11 and 18.

Designed to attract as many shoppers as possible, the free car parking

will follow a series of Christmas festival events planned for Bridgend town centre.

These include a Christmas Craft Market from November 25-27, a Christmas Food Market between December 2-4, and the return of the Bridgend Elfsteddfod on December 10 which will seek to top last year's record-breaking efforts by encouraging more than 1,000 people to dress up as elves.

Father Christmas will make an early visit on November 26 to see the Christmas lights being switched on and to meet local children in his grotto. Then on December 3, a special train called the 'Christmas Express' will roll into town to offer rides for all the family.

## Choir's annual concert

**BRIDGEND Male Choir (Côr Meibion Pen-y-bont) is holding its annual concert on Friday, October 21.**

The concert is being held at St Mary's RC Church, Ewenny Road, Bridgend, and will begin at 7pm.

The programme will contain a variety of music for all tastes including Welsh favourites and music from the shows.

The choir welcomes soprano soloist Llio Evans, a winner of the Russell Sheppard Scholarship whilst studying at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff last year.

In addition, the choir will be pay-

ing its own tribute to the late Bryan Davies from the Rhondda.

Bryan was a world-class accompanist who worked with many great names including Bryn Terfel. He arranged a wealth of music for male voice choirs renowned for its challenge and complexity.

Bryan accompanied the Bridgend Male Choir in their annual concert in 2004 and built up a warm relationship with the choir.

Tickets are £7, available from the News Shop, Dunraven Place; Porters Estate Agents, Nolton Street; St Mary's RC Church, Ewenny Road; phone 07773 170373 or email bookings@bridgendmalechoir.co.uk.

## Local AM calls for talking buses!

**A LOCAL AM is backing a bid for talking buses to help the blind get out and about.**

Ogmore Labour Assembly Member Janice Gregory is giving her support to a Guide Dogs Cymru campaign to make bus travel more accessible to blind and partially-sighted people by ensuring that vocal announcements of the current and next stop, as well as the final destination, are given on buses.

Meeting campaigners at the National Assembly, Janice Gregory discussed research conducted by Guide Dogs Cymru that found that blind and par-

tially-sighted people avoid travelling by bus for fear of getting on the wrong bus or missing their stop. Audio-visual equipment giving details of the bus route already exists on other forms of transport across the UK, helping passengers to navigate their journey.

Janice Gregory said: "Installing audio-visual equipment on buses will tear down a barrier which currently deters blind and partially-sighted people from taking the bus."

"Announcing stops will benefit all passen-

gers, not just the blind and partially-sighted. It happens elsewhere, so there is no reason why it cannot be done everywhere."

Guide Dogs Cymru also highlights the hazardous nature of pavements which can provide dangerous tripping hazards.

Janice added: "It is important to recognise the difficulties which blind and partially-sighted people face day in, day out. These problems could be rectified by relatively straightforward repair to our streets."

## Harvest festival

**A HARVEST Service will be held on Sunday, October 16 at St Michael's Church, Colwinston at 6.30pm followed by a Harvest supper at Colwinston Village Hall at approximately 7.30pm.**

Tickets are £5 each

(under 10s free), contact Christina Jones or email bridgendyoungfarmers@hotmail.co.uk for further information and tickets.

All proceeds will go to Bridgend YFC's 70th anniversary dinner and dance in the Liberty Stadium, Swansea, on Thursday, May 26, 2012. **BE**

## HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL OCTOBER 20)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
13 Thur	08.47	9.5	21.05	9.6
14 Fri	09.18	9.7	21.34	9.6
15 Sat	09.46	9.6	22.06	9.4
16 Sun	10.17	9.3	22.34	9.1
17 Mon	10.49	9.1	23.03	8.7
18 Tues	11.25	8.6	23.49	8.3
19 Wed			12.08	8.2
20 Thur	00.43	7.9	13.11	7.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.



# Tory AMs ask council to restore Home Start funding

**TWO regional AMs have pledged their support to a Bridgend charity which has lost its council funding.**

Suzy Davies and Byron Davies, Welsh Conservative AMs for South Wales West, visited Home Start to discuss how it is coping since Bridgend County Borough Council (CBCB) withdrew its £35,000 a year funding.

The charity, which is part of a national network, provides support for 50 families in the area and has 60 trained volunteers on its books.

Although Government funding has continued for the work it does in the valleys and Communities First areas, the money from Bridgend social services, which paid for its work in the rest of the borough, has disappeared.

## VOLUNTEERS

Lynne Thomas, who is scheme manager, explained that the volunteers they have range in age from 17 to 75.

She said: "We have people who are parents and grandparents who are able to offer the benefit of their experience to young and perhaps inexperienced parents."

"Others are hoping for a career in social services or care and find that volunteering with us is a great way to gain experience and insight into the problems of family life."

"We help families where there is at least one child aged under five, but they often have lots of older children as well, so our volunteers help with all the children."

"We have some single mothers on our books who find it hard to cope and welcome advice or even just friendship, but

some of our families have six or eight children and the parents feel a bit overwhelmed. Other parents may have triplets or twins and need support."

"We also help single fathers who may value help from a woman. Some single mothers ask for a male volunteer as they have sons who need somebody to kick a ball with. Every case is different."

"Every applicant is evaluated fully before being accepted into the scheme."

"We have to be sure that they are right for the type of assistance we can offer," added Lynne. "We have referrals from social workers and health visitors but people can also get in touch themselves."

"We stay until their youngest child reaches the age of five and then we have to pull out, which is often a shame. Some groups have managed to gain funding to enable them to stay longer, but we have been unable to do that. At the moment, we are just hoping to keep things going as we are."

Since losing the funding, the charity has applied for alternative funding to various trusts and bodies but is surviving at the moment on its own contingency funds.

Once they are gone, it may have to reduce the number of families it helps in the Bridgend, Porthcawl and Pencoed



Regional AMs Suzy Davies and Byron Davies, with scheme manager Lynne Thomas

areas which are not covered by Assembly funding.

Suzy Davies said that she will be writing to ask CBCB to explain the logic of cutting this funding.

"I understand that if only one of the families helped by Home Start fails, it will cost more for the children to be taken into care over a year than the amount given to Home Start. That makes no sense."

## SUPPORT

"A little bit of support can often make all the difference."

"Allowing a harassed mum to take a bath and wash her hair in peace while somebody reads to the children may not sound much, but it is often the difference between coping and not coping."

"We all have a safety valve which we use to let off steam."

"I feel that Home Start is that safety valve. Many families now have working grandmothers or live too far away from their families for them to help much."

"I think that Home Start is a fantastic organisation that deserves support and I hope they can find the funding they need to keep going."

Byron Davies has

also pledged his backing to the group. He said: "I know that savings have to be found, but this seems to be good value for money for the taxpayers of Bridgend."

"For £35,000, which is not a large sum in council terms, they were getting support for more than 50 families and the services of 60 trained volunteers."

"What would it cost if those people had to be paid and if the council had to organise and administer this scheme itself? The answer is a devil of a lot more."

"I understand the bureaucratic desire to axe funding to outside bodies in order to protect their own core jobs, but often the best value comes from groups which are run as tight ships, without needless layers of management."

## GOVERNMENT CUTBACKS

Coun Huw David, the cabinet member for resources, said: "It was agreed to reduce the amount of funding to Home Start in stages in order to provide them with sufficient notice to plan for the future, look at different ways of working and talk to possible new partners for the scheme."

"Before anyone forgets that these cuts are ultimately being driven by the government in Westminster, it's worth remembering that the authority's budget was passed at a meeting of full council where Ms Davies' Conservative colleagues had the opportunity to vote against the reduction, but decided not to."

"Is she criticising them too, or is it the case that her colleagues are adopting a more realistic approach?"

# Pupils get taste of television production with Eastender Sam

**PUPILS from two South Wales schools had a chance to create their own soap operas with help from BBC Learning and the BBC's EastEnders:E20 team.**

Pupils from Ysgol Llangynwyd and Maesteg Comprehensive, Bridgend, were visited by producers, script writers and editors from EastEnders web-based spin-off E20.

Actor Samuel Benta, who plays Donnie in the soap, gave the pupils, aged 14 and over, an insight into his role during the workshops.

The pupils were encouraged to create their own characters and write a section of dialogue. A student then



Cadie, a student from Maesteg School, with Sam Benta who plays Donnie.

acted the role opposite Donnie, which was filmed and edited within 90 minutes.

"It's very educational but great fun for the students," said BBC Learning executive producer Sarah Miller. Lewis, a pupil at

was pretty cool."

# New service to help patients manage pain

**A NEW service which helps people with back problems and other painful chronic conditions to live positively, has been launched across the ABM University Health Board, with a clinic planned for Bridgend.**

A wide range of physical and psychological techniques are used to help patients manage their pain, restore function and improve their quality of life.

Consultant anaesthetist and chronic pain specialist, Dr Christian Egeler, explained that chronic pain affected a large number of people.

He said: "Chronic pain is not so much a symptom like acute pain, but a condition in its own right. Some patients with chronic medical conditions suffer with long-term pain, and it was not always medically possible to relieve it completely. However, with proactive management, patients can learn the right skills to live full lives without pain overwhelming everything they do."

There has been a small chronic pain management service in parts of ABM for a few years, but now a much larger-scale Chronic Non Malignant

Pain Service has been launched, which covers the ABM area.

There are clinics in Neath Port Talbot and Swansea, and clinics in Bridgend are also planned. Meanwhile, Bridgend patients are still able to access the new service in Neath Port Talbot.

The new team consists of physiotherapists, occupational therapists, a psychologist, specialist pain nurses, and clinicians, with support from pharmacists and other clinical and administrative staff.

Treatments include medication reviews, physiotherapy and medical interventions; general advice on exercise, and psychological help to develop coping strategies and improve mood.

Dr Egeler said: "This service is aimed mainly for patients with long-standing chronic back pain, which within the ABM area is a large group of patients."

"It's also available for patients with other pain conditions like fibromyalgia, arthritis, nerve related type pain and visceral abdominal pains."

# Police seek 'I-Pod' suspect

**POLICE in Bridgend are appealing for information following a theft from a store at the Designer Outlet Village, Bridgend.**

At about 11.40am on September 17, a man purchased an I-Pod from the HMV Store. The man later returned the I-Pod to the shop and was given a refund. But later the packaging was examined and the I-Pod was found to be missing.

Officers have released a CCTV image (above) of a man they wish to speak with in



connection with the incident.

Anyone who can assist in the identity of the man should contact Police in Bridgend on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

# 'Old Spice' provides great entertainment

## COITY WI NEWS

**PRESIDENT Mary Poland welcomed our speaker for September, Marjorie Page, who gave a comprehensive and informative talk on Clarice Cliff.**

She was thanked by our vice-president Ann Mutton.

Our team for the GFWI quiz, held at the High Tide, Porthcawl, was Mary Poland, Ann Mutton, Elaine Shepherd and Val Clatworthy.

We had a very pleasant evening, meeting friends from other WIs, but sadly, although we did very well we didn't come away with any prizes this time.

The highlight of the month was undoubtedly the Ploughman's Supper, held at the TA centre, Litchard, and organised by the Friends of Coity WI.

On a very warm and summery evening some 60 guests attended, and were entertained by Barber Shop Quartet 'Old Spice'.

The 'Naughty but Nice' dessert table was supplied by 'the Friends', and we are grateful to Sainsbury's for their support with the main course.

Raffle prizes were

donated and we owe thanks to The Six Bells at Coity, who gave a meal for two, Precious Petals, Coity, who donated a flower arrangement and Rita and John Williams for the bottle of whiskey.

Thanks are also due to Roy and Julia Poland who went 'beyond the call of duty' in the help they gave.

We were very pleased to hear that the sum of £325 was raised for the supply of Tiptree boxes for the Princess of Wales.

These are boxes which are used in the care of dementia patients. Filled with familiar items, they engage the patients' attention and help keep them calm at times of anxiety: they have been found to reduce wandering and falls and help patients to engage with staff.

We are very pleased to have raised such a substantial sum and thank everyone who supported us.

Our next meeting is on October 26 and will be held at Coity Church Hall at 7.30pm.

New members will be warmly welcomed at the meeting.

ES

# £595 RAISED FOR THE GUIDE DOGS



**THE Bridgend Branch of Guide Dogs for the Blind held a street collection in Bridgend Town Centre on October 8 to mark the end of National Guide Dog Week, and raised £595.69. They would like to thank everyone who contributed to the collection.**

# Art show at the Berwyn Centre

**THE Berwyn Centre in Nantymoel is holding its annual open art exhibition by artists from all over south Wales.**

Now in its 36th year, and organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community development, the exhibition celebrates the varied and tal-

ented work of the local professional and amateur arts community, and runs until October 28.

More than 120 pieces of work will be on display in watercolour, pencil, pastel, oil, acrylic, digital photography and ceramics. Art will also be available to buy.

The exhibition will open Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

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## Seven puppies in need of a name - and a home!

**RIGHT:** Saluki mum Tulisa and her pups will soon be looking for new homes

**STAFF at Dogs Trust Bridgend are appealing for the public's help to name a litter of Saluki puppies who will shortly be in need of new homes, along with their mother.**

All seven two-week-old puppies were left homeless, with their mother, when she was handed into the rehoming centre with a broken leg. When she bounced back from her operation and took to nursing her pups straight away, staff decided to name her Tulisa after the *X Factor* judge because of her fighting spirit.

Beverly Price, of the Dogs Trust Bridgend Rehoming Centre said: "Tulisa was in a desperate state when she came in and needed to be operated on immediately. It was touch and go not

only because we thought she may lose her leg, but because her puppies needed to be separated from her during the operation so the staff were all hands on deck to give them around-the-clock care.

"Tulisa is so gentle but a fighter, and she's proving to be a fantastic mum. We'd love the public to help us name the puppies, who will all need new homes when they are old enough to leave their mum.

"If you'd like to put forward a name please visit our Facebook page or tweet @DogsTrustPR with your suggestion."

If you think Tulisa or any of her puppies could take centre stage in your home, call Dogs Trust Bridgend on 01656 725219, or visit the centre at Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend.



## Workshop for budding local business women

**AN organisation that encourages women to get involved in business is holding an event in Porthcawl.**

For some women, knowing how to take the first steps to setting-up and running a business can be a challenge in itself. However, help is at hand from Chwarae Teg, the organisation that

works to ensure the economic development of women in Wales, which is holding a Welsh Government-funded free workshop for women who want to take the first step towards running their own business.

The workshop is taking place on October 20 in The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, and runs from 11.30am to 2pm. Bev Pold from Chwarae Teg explains: "Many women simply haven't had the opportunity they need to turn an idea into a business."

"For example, if you've not had experience in the business world, even the thought of developing a business plan can be daunting. We understand this and that's why I'm delighted we are able to run this workshop."

"It's been prepared to give women the key information and encouragement they need to start turning their dream of running their own business into reality."

To book a place, call Chwarae Teg on 029 2047 8900.

**Coffee morning**  
**EWENNY Garden Centre is holding a coffee morning for the Macmillan charity on Saturday, October 15, 10am-12 noon.**

## LIBRARIES' HOURS CHANGE

**PONTYCYMER and Betws Libraries have changed their opening times.**

The new opening times are as follows.

Betws: Monday, closed; Tuesday, 9.30am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 2pm - 6pm; Friday, 9.30am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm; Saturday, closed.

Pontycymer: Monday, 9.30am [ 1pm and 3pm - 6pm; Tuesday, closed; Wednesday, 9.30am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm; Thursday, 9.30am - 12.30pm; closed Friday and Saturday.

For more information see the libraries pages at [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk).

## Bridgend Bridge Club results

**THE LATEST results from the recent Bridgend Bridge Club Evenings were as follows:**

**Wednesday, October 5** - first, Steve Burgoyne and Linda Pinnock; second, Ray Smith and Denis Mottram; third, Tony and Emer Disley.

**Friday, October 7** - first, Graham Jones and Irene Thomas; second, Jane Brook and Wendy Williams; third, Bill Turner and Linda Pinnock.

The club meets at 7pm on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall, and a warm welcome is assured for both new members and visitors.

A host system is running for those who don't have a partner on a Friday, and a partner-finder system operates on a Wednesday.

Full details are on the club website (simply Google Bridgend Bridge Club).

DN

## Porthcawl Stroke Club enjoys Glenys' visit

**GLENYS Lewis of New Road, Porthcawl, once again lifted the spirits of the Porthcawl Stroke Club members.**

Whenever we feel a little low, Glenys comes to the rescue with her team of volunteers. A wonderful buffet was laid on; nothing is too much work for Glenys, who herself has a busy life with her own family. All members would like to express our gratitude.

In September Keith Duggan, chairman, and committee member Ray Cross invited another Stroke Club from Fishguard to the Porthcawl club. This was an interesting morning, we enjoyed a quiz and the large room in the Rest Home was full; I myself met up with a lady called Dilys who explained what happens at her club in Fishguard. A really informative morning, they were a great crowd and we seemed to hit it off instantly; looking forward to a return visit.

On October 19, a mystery trip is planned, so we hope everyone will be well enough to make it.

The next item on the calendar is lunch at the Rest Home, followed by the Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints Church.

Yvonne and Lyn Guttridge are next on the agenda, with our famous Christmas table centres! What a delight, they really look professional and there is a contest who has the best.

Last but not least, our



**Glenys Lewis, Kathleen Jones and Keith Duggan**

Christmas dinner is at the Grove Golf Club which finishes off our year with an abundance of happiness and joy.

On a closing note we would just like to mention also, that two new members have joined the Porthcawl Stroke Club recently, so we would like to thank the media coverage for your con-

tinuing support making people aware of the club.

We send good health wishes to Edith Williams, Mary Jones and Esther Bersford, our supporters, we wish you all a speedy recovery.

To join the club, contact Keith Duggan on 01656 773376 or Ray Cross on 01656 782190.

**Barbara Matthews**

## MERTHYR MAWR WI

**OUR annual summer dinner was held in August when we enjoyed an excellent meal provided by Jane Morgan.**

In September we welcomed Carol Brown as our speaker for the evening. Carol spoke about the history of belly dancing. She had brought along some dresses and outfits to show us and then she demonstrated some dances.

An excellent evening was rounded off with some members having a go at dancing themselves.

President Margaret Batten opened the October meeting, which was the AGM. Beth Budd gave the treasurer's report. We have a flourishing WI with 46 full members and two dual members, with an average attendance of 33.

The financial statement was agreed and accepted.

The secretary Alice Coulter gave a comprehensive report on our activities for the last year. We had a busy year with a good variety of speakers at our monthly meetings and several outings and excursions. She thanked all the members for their support and

friendship during the year.

President Margaret Batten thanked the committee and members for all their support during the year. She then welcomed county adviser, Kath Mephram, who reminded members of the Glamorgan events, especially the craft fair which will be held in Cowbridge on November 12.

She talked about the project Go Nuts. This project is to help Bangem in Cameroon in tackling health implications caused by an absence of cooking oil in their markets. Training will be given to help the villagers farm palm oil. WI members are encouraged to hold events with a nut theme to raise money to support this work.

Kath Mephram then conducted the election of the president and committee and Margaret Batten was unanimously elected to serve again as president for the next year.

The next meeting will be held at Ewenny Community Hall on November 2, when the speaker will be Belinda Ashgong, speaking about the Heritage Coast.

**Fiona Cater**

## Senator's golf day for Ty Hafan

**THE staff and directors of Senator Security, the Bridgend-based security company, sponsored a charity golf day on October 5 at the St Mary's Hotel Golf and Country Club in Pencoid for Ty Hafan.**

Ty Hafan offers comfort, care and support for life-limited children and young people and is dedicated to improving the quality of life of their whole family.

Robbie Ryan, Senator Security director, said: "This is such a worthy cause and we were proud to be able to do our little bit to support Ty Hafan."

## Quiz league kicks off

**THE 39th season of the Bridgend Quiz League got under way on October 3 and teams are pretty much the same as before, with just some changes of venue.**

One early surprise was the Nomads, now at the Ty Risha, losing to the Mackworth Arms by 48 points to 46; true, they were one man short, but a fair result.

The Ty Risha Royals however, were successful, winning 47-38 away to Oldcastle A.

A similar scoreline came from Laleston Inn A who lost at home to newly promoted Six Bells 47-39.

Crown A (ex-Maesteg Catholic Club) beat the other promoted side Cabo Roche by 40 points to 36 and champions Llangewydd Arms had a bye.

In Division Two, the two teams relegated from Division One had good results.

Coychurch Wanderers won 42-36 against

Greenmeadow (ex-Llanelwyr AFC) and Tondur Railway Club made 49 to beat Laleston Inn B, who managed 32.

Scores at the remaining two games were also similar as Oldcastle B won 44-33 at Pyle RFC and at the Pheasant Gamekeepers beat Crown B 43-34, while Pheasant Poachers had a bye.

**Here are your teasers:**

1. Which scientist was Master of the Royal Mint from 1700 to his death in 1727?
2. Which London building has the postcode SW1A 1AA?
3. Known as the 'Celtic Warrior', who was the first boxer to beat Chris Eubank in a professional contest?
4. Which bird, often regarded as an ill omen, is the largest of the crow family?

**A RUDGE (for Quiz League)**

- Answers:**
1. Isaac Newton.
  2. Buckingham Palace.
  3. St. Paul's.
  4. Raven.



# YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

## Presentation

FOLLOWING their support at this year's Community Fun Day, the chair of the organising committee and clerk to the council, Harold Phillips, invited Sgt Jason Jenkins and PCSO Nerys Lloyd from the Neighbourhood Policing Team, to the Talbot Community Centre to receive a cheque for £100 for the Police Fund.

## KPC Youth

EVERYONE who supported the coffee morning hosted by KPC at their centre to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer on Wednesday, September 28, was entertained with fantastic singing from the pupils of Pil Primary School.

KPC thank the pupils along with their teachers Mrs Benjamin and Miss Rees for putting on a performance which was particularly impressive considering that some of the pupils were new to the choir and that it had only reformed in the past few weeks.

Also impressive was the money raised for Macmillan, which was in the region of £115.

## Talbot Community Centre

AT its monthly meeting on Wednesday last week, the committee were delighted that Roger Went, son-in-law of the late Carl Turner, agreed to become a trustee and director of the Talbot Community Centre.

His experience with different community projects will be invaluable to the centre. To find out about all the activities and events at the Centre, please ring, Cheryl Butcher on 01656 749754.

## Mynydd Cynffig Junior School

Congratulations to the following pupils who were nominated for impressing the staff at the school last week: Mia Thomas, Class 1;

Ieuan Everett, Class 2; Cai Williams, Class 3; Olivia Davies, Class 4; Rico Downing, Class 5; Corey Paul, Class 6 and Anwen Sleath, Class 7.

The Headteacher's Award went to Jasmin Delbridge. Congratulations also go to Lick To Chung, Lauren Cooper, Megan Stevens, Rhys Davies, Rico Downing, Josef Gray, Daisy Percy, Neve Mitchell, Ebony Rees, Sonny Wood and Lowri Powis for their excellent behaviour during lunchtimes last week and as a reward they will be joining Mr Goldsworthy for lunch.

Tomorrow, (Friday October 14) Class 3 along with their teacher Miss K Morgan will be performing their assembly in the school hall starting at 10.15am.

Parents, grandparents, family and friends of the pupils taking part are welcome.

The School Book Fair began last Monday. It gives the pupils an opportunity to look at the books during the day. The parents can go to the school at 3.30pm every day during the week to buy or order books.

The school held a very interesting eco-week with many activities which ended with an excellent assembly from Class 5.

Following on from this, many ideas were put forward including one to 'adopt' an endangered species and, to raise funds for this, Class 5 organised a cake sale last Friday. The pupils brought £1 each to adopt an orangutan at £4 per month.

The cake stall raised an amazing £103, so with last week's money, the school hope to finance the planting of new trees in the rainforest as well as adopting the orangutan. Well done Year-5!

On September 29, the school played at home to Treleas Primary School at netball and rugby. The A rugby team again produced an excellent performance, scoring five tries. Luke Dingle scored two tries and kicked five conver-



## COMMUNITY NEWS from KENFIC HILL AND PYLE

by Richard Sims

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sions. Tries were also scored by Leon Jones (2) and Ben Evans (1). Although Treleas put up a spirited fight, the school had another fine win 35-14. The improvement was continued by the B team, who won their match by 25-0 with Ben Evans scoring two tries and Callum Brennan, Kieran Thomas and Connor John scoring one apiece.

There was a vast improvement by the A netball team when they won their match 10-4, with Megan Stevens and Senem Akpinar scoring five points each. Unfortunately the B team lost 5-1 with Kaisha-Louise Hughes scoring the only point, however they combined with the A team to beat a mixed Treleas team 5-1.

Once again the boys have gone to the district rugby trials and been successful.

Taking part in the first trial were Callum Lewis, Philip Burnell, Luke Dingle, Louie Flower, Connor Morgan and Leon Jones. Unfortunately, Callum Lewis was unable to make the second trial and Louie Flower did not get through. However, the school congratulates Philip Burnell, Leon Jones, Luke Dingle and Connor Morgan who got into the district squad.

At the beginning of the term, pupils from the upper juniors had a chance to apply for the librarian position and, from the excellent applications received, the following pupils were chosen: Megan Stevens, Lowri Thomas, Jasmin Delbridge, Mali Llewellyn, Charlotte Graham, Rebecca Coleman, Charlotte Coleman, Jade Walker,

Emmi Joy and Paige Cochran.

## Mynydd Cynffig Infants School

LAST week pupils were transformed into 'superheroes'.

Usually when you visit the school you are greeted by a sea of red, but this week they dressed in green to express their concern for the future of Planet Earth. They held a very successful 'Waste Awareness Week' when pupils from nursery to Year 2 revisited the 3Rs - 'Reduce - Reuse - Recycle'.

The school council and eco club launched the week with a green assembly and they even devised their own eco song.

After a busy week of activities ranging from saving paper to the importance of clean water and renewable energies, the children paraded in a green stream around the village in a war on waste. Their message was clear and they wanted the community to join in and care about the planet. In a special celebration assembly last Friday, prizes were awarded to the winners of the eco code competition. First place went to Maicy Styles from Class 3 with Thomas Attwood from Class 6 a close runner-up.

During the week, the Salvation Army visited the school to collect a mountain of clothes and shoes which had been donated by the pupils' families. This helps the children to reuse and recycle clothing and at the same time it also helps a great cause.

On Wednesday, October 19, the nursery will be holding their Harvest service; parents are welcome to attend.

## Community Watch

PYLE and Cefn Cribwr Neighbourhood Policing Team will be at the Co-op in Pyle on Monday, October 17, to give out crime prevention advice.

They will be situated in their mobile police unit in the main car park from 9am until 3pm.

It will be open to anyone who wants to pop in for a cup of tea and a chat. In the meantime if you have any concerns you want



ABOVE: Mynydd Cynffig pupils in their 'green super hero' costumes.

to discuss, ring PCSO Jon Howe on 07805 301491.

After receiving complaints at several PACT meetings regarding speeding on Marlas Road in Pyle, a speed survey was conducted by the Highways Department of BCBC. Recording equipment, which is active 24 hours a day and covers traffic in both directions, was attached to a lamppost in the street between September 21 and October 7. This equipment provided the following results: During this time, the speed of 76,127 vehicles was checked, resulting in 64,068 travelling below the 30mph speed limit, 9,336 travelling between 31-35mph, 2,093 travelling between 36-40mph and 630 vehicles travelling at over 40mph. The main outcome of the survey revealed that less than one per cent of vehicles that use Marlas Road on a daily basis travel at particularly dangerous speeds and 3.6 per cent of all vehicles travel at a speed which would trigger police action.

Highways were also able to confirm that there had only been three recorded road traffic collisions that have resulted in injury on Marlas Road in the past five years.

The most notable fact surrounding these collisions was that the injuries were very minor and speed was not recorded or considered to be a contributory factor in any of them.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team say they will continue to look at Marlas Road when doing speed camera work; however, because of the low percentages of speeding drivers the placement of a permanent speed camera or speed-humps are currently not viable options.

**Pyle Community Council** LOCAL borough councillor, Clive James, recently met officers from BCBC with regard to illegal parking in front of the dentists' surgery.

Following this meeting, an email from BCBC explained that, unfortunately, due to reasons which they cannot explain, the correct loading ban signage is missing and so are the kerb markings which should accompany the yellow lines and, as such, the order is currently unenforceable. They then discussed the possibility of remedial work being funded by the community council. The council resolved that the clerk to write to BCBC declining to fund such work.

It was resolved to rejuvenate the land opposite Heathbridge Surgery, referred to as Croft Coch Square. The theme of the rejuvenation would be 'a memorial to those who worked and died in the local collieries'.

The council confirmed that they will hold a Christmas raffle which will be run on the same basis as the Summer Fun Day draw which benefits local organisations.

Coun Gina Hooper informed the council that 2,000 books had already been distributed to local organisations. The draw will take place on Friday, December 9, in the Talbot Community Centre the night the Christmas lights are switched on.

The council has accepted the quotation of £7,314.84 from BCBC for the installation of 36 sets of Christmas lights. There was a question of how many lights were still working and the clerk was asked to investigate. The lights will be switched on Friday, December 9, followed by refreshments, Father Christmas' Grotto and a children's disco in the Talbot Community Centre.

The clerk reported that there had been repeat requests for confirmation of the re-establishment of a cricket facility at Croft Coch; he had now received an email from Gareth Evans in which he stated that Mawdlam Cricket Club had disbanded and no cricket was played in Cornelly this year and, while an unused facility was

available, they would not support the development of an additional facility. When asked by Coun Paula James for his assessment of the situation, the clerk replied that, in his opinion and having walked the Croft Coch Field, both the cost and time levels indicated by BCBC were unrealistically low.

The clerk also said the cost would represent 25 per cent of the council's disposable budget. The clerk was asked to express the council's disappointment to BCBC.

The clerk reported that the cost of the Fun Day and raffle was £2,450 and the amount raised by the participating organisations was £6,172. He said that the letters of thanks had been received from the ATC, the Samaritans, Talbot Community Centre and Mynydd

Cynffig Junior School.

Coun Gina Hooper reported that a Community Festival Week was being planned for 2012 starting on Saturday, June 16, with a concert in Pisgah Chapel, holding the Fun Day on Saturday, June 23, and concluding with a Songs of Praise Service in St Theodore's Church on Sunday, June 24. Other organisations will also hold events during that week.

Coun Hooper said that The Talbot Community Centre is proposing to have an evening prior to the Festival Week to select a carnival princess, who will be paraded through the community on the morning of the Fun Day. The selection evening would also include a children's disco and other entertainment.

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# YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

## Public stalwart

THE Garw Valley is fortunate that it has a public-spirited member of the community who is not only a volunteer but organises events as well.

I am writing about Dixie Dean – he is secretary of the local branch of the British Legion and as such is responsible for organising the Poppy Day Appeal concert in Pontycymer Leisure Centre on Saturday, October 15, at 7.30pm.

Dixie is also secretary of Cŵr Meibion Cwm Garw (Garw Valley Male Voice Choir) and as a chorister has been busy rehearsing with the choir, which will be performing in the concert with music provided by St Athan RAF Volunteer Band. The undoubted stars of the concert will be the choir from Betws Primary School.

Dixie is also organising the sale of tickets for the concert, either from Pontycymer post office, or by contacting him on 01656 870304; £5 adults, £2.50 children (under-16).

He is also working to form the Garw Valley Youth Male Choir.

## Ogmore Valley

ANOTHER amazing, public-spirited person is Janet Cronin, who is secretary of a group of volunteers, who as nurses approximately 40 years ago, decided that people in the valley who were housebound should be given additional assistance, which still applies today.

The volunteers provide help to people who live on their own and welcome the company provided to them. At present, there are 30 housebound people who the volunteers help.

This group regularly hires a minibus to pick up people from their homes and take them to the Welfare Hall in Ogmore Vale.

In the Welfare Hall, the volunteers have prepared a hot meal and then provide a variety of entertainment events for the afternoon.

This group of volunteers will always need financial assistance, and, of course, more volunteers who feel capable of helping.

Janet is also a member of the Ogmore Valley Ladies Society and choir, which each year nominates a charity and raises money for it.

## South and West Wales Wildlife Trust

MEMBERS of the trust are putting on an interesting event at the Parc Slip nature reserve visitor centre, Tondur, on Wednesday, October 26, between 10am and 12noon entitled 'Live 'n' Deadly (DSI: Deadly Scene Investigation)'.

'Live 'n' Deadly' is CBBC's wildlife and adventure show for kids. Its mission is to get children outside and closer to wildlife. DSI: Deadly Scene Investigation is a brand new activity to get families exploring the natural world.

Each child will be given a 'Deadly Detective's' booklet, before exploring the reserve to look for clues; can you work out who has eaten who?

The booklet includes activities to encourage families to enjoy the nature and wildlife, and a series of puzzles, which help solve the 'Deadly Scene'.

It is free, but please book in advance as this is a popular event. You can book by contacting 01656 724100 or email membership@welshwildlife.org.

**Rotary Club, Maesteg**  
THE Rotary Club of Maesteg will this year

be organising the fire-works display at Maesteg Rugby Club on Saturday, November 5, carrying on the previous good work of the Round Table.

The event will commence at 7.30pm, gates opening at 6.30pm. The cost of admission will be £6 for adults and £3 for children, with a family ticket of two adults and two children costing £15. All money raised by Rotary is given to local and international charities.

This is the first year that the Rotary Club has organised such an event and they are hoping that it will continue to have the support that was enjoyed previously.

Entertainment by a DJ will start at 6.30pm and refreshments will be available on the night.

**Maesteg U3A**  
AT the recent meeting in September, members offered thanks to the guest speaker Dr Gill Evans for a passionate and informative talk on her chosen subject 'The Palestinian Story'.

Dr Gill's talk included many photos of events and her accounts of her experiences were very moving.

The next meeting of U3A at the Central Church Hall will be on Tuesday, October 25, at 2.30pm, and the speakers, Rhianon Kinsley and Mark Harris from BCBC, will share their vision on the 'Regeneration of Maesteg'.

It should be pointed out that this is not a public meeting for open debate but more a chance to understand how the regeneration programme will enhance the town centre.

U3A stands for the University of the Third Age, which is a self-help organisation for people no longer in full-time employment providing educational, creative and leisure opportunities in a friendly environment.

Local U3As are learning co-operatives which draw upon the knowledge, experience and skills of their own members to organise and provide interest groups.

The U3A approach to learning is learning for pleasure.

**Betws Food Bank**  
THE volunteers have celebrated the first anniversary of the opening of the food bank at St David's Church, Betws.

During the last year Bridgend Food Bank supplied them with 288kg of food, from which the volunteers have helped 35 families in Bridgend county borough.

The parish itself has donated 61.8kg to the food bank. The food bank at St David's is open every Wednesday morning between 9.15am and 11am.

## NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of THE GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**  
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ  
TEL: 01656 725399

email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



## Noah's Ark Appeal

THE musical evening at All Saints Church, Pen-y-Fai takes place tonight at 6pm. The music will be provided by choristers from Bois Goetre Hen a'r Cylch, and the stars of the evening will be the pupils of Pen-y-Fai Primary School.

The members of the church who organise the sale of goods on the Fairtrade table deserve congratulations – they have raised £1,088.69 towards a good cause. Well done to everyone.

## Tondur Primary School

MRS Susan Pilsher, the headteacher, would like to remind parents that meetings with their children's teachers for both Meadow Street and Heol Persondy buildings will be held on Tuesday, October 18, Wednesday, October 19 and Thursday, October 20.

Appointment letters will be sent out this week. Please confirm your appointment with your child's teacher by tomorrow (October 14). Susan is asking everyone to make every effort to attend so that they can hear how their child or children are settling into their new class.

Mrs Tuck's class would like to invite all parents and friends to share in their class assembly at 10.20am on Friday, October 14. Please join the class afterwards for a cup of tea or coffee.

The PTA is running a half-term disco tonight (Thursday) for pupils of Tondur Primary School only, 6pm-7pm at Aberkenfig Bible Church (the old Lyric).

Sweets and water will be on sale, and there will be a variety of stalls for the children to purchase 'tattoos' etc.

Parents of pupils in Afan class are requested to ensure they stay with their children for the evening. Parents are welcome to stay with children!

The Helping Hands parents' group meets each Monday at 9.30am on the Meadow Street site and 9.45am in the canteen at Heol Persondy.

The school would love to have parents who are willing to come in to help in the library and listen to the pupils reading. The children benefit enormously from this help.

If anyone would like to give it a try, please contact Miss Handley if you are able to help. If Monday mornings are not convenient and you would like to help in the school at any other time, the school would be delighted to hear from you.

Mrs Pilsher would like to congratulate Lauren Davies, Bethanie Trebble, Meghan Trebble, Ethan Wodecki and Lewis Wodecki, who took part in the Primary Schools' Cross Country competition on Saturday, October 1 at Y Dderwen.

## Ogmore Vale Primary School

MRS J Morgan, headteacher, would like to advise parents that the school's Harvest Festival Service will take place next Friday, October 21.

It is hoped that the children will bring donations of tinned or packet foods, with a shelf life of at least three months.

These donations will be given to Bridgend Food Bank.

## Cŵr Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch

(Maesteg and District Male Voice Choir)  
THE choir is celebrating its 37th annual concert at Maesteg Town Hall on Saturday, October 22 at 7pm.

Appearing on the night will be one of Wales's foremost young tenors, Joshua Mills from Neath. He is a final year undergraduate student at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, where he studies as a classical tenor with Adrian Thompson and the director of the National Opera Studio, Kathryn Harries.

Joshua has enjoyed success at numerous UK competitions, and most recently was selected as special prize-winner for 'best sacred aria' at the International Mozart Singing Competition 2011.

He has been selected on three occasions to perform with the Welsh National Youth Opera at the Wales Millennium Centre. Recently, he has been chosen to perform the role of Don Curzio in the British Youth Opera's 2011 production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*.

Joshua has also sung solo at prestigious venues in Prague, Paris, Barcelona, Tuscany and

Venice, where he toured with the Ariosa Singers.

As a guest soloist, he has performed with the Duvant Male Choir, Newport Philharmonic Choir, Cardiff Male Choir, Pontarddulais Male Choir, Kidderminster Male Choir and Southampton Choral Society and Orchestra.

Joshua was invited by the BBC to take part in a four-part television series about Welsh tenors, and his television debut was broadcast in March 2010.

He subsequently sang solo on S4C daytime television over the Christmas period 2010. He is now experiencing an increasingly busy concert schedule and performing at concerts nationwide.

He aspires to progress through his degree course and further his singing through postgraduate study with one of the leading music conservatoires.

His ultimate ambition is to become a leading operatic tenor.

The choir's accompanist for the concert will be Ryan Wood, who has been playing the piano from a very young age and began accompanying choirs at the age of

13 years old, when he became assistant accompanist of Maesteg Children's Choir.

Ryan currently holds the position of accompanist with both Maesteg Children's Choir and Cŵr Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch.

He also holds the position of deputy musical director with Cowbridge Male Voice Choir in the Vale.

He is in high demand across south Wales as an accompanist to choirs and soloists, and has accompanied Grammy award winning soprano, Rebecca Evans. He has also accompanied Only Men Aloud!

In recent years, Ryan has taken an interest in conducting and has formed his own mixed choir, Noteworthy, and it continues to go from strength to strength.

He has also conducted various musicals, having previously been the musical director of both Spotlight Theatre Company and Cowbridge Amateur Operatic Society.

Ryan's talents as a conductor were recognised in early 2010 when he was asked to conduct a performance of Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus* for a live broadcast on BBC Radio Wales.

He has a particular interest in opera and was instrumental in the formation of a quartet of female singers called Viva to the Diva.

Ryan accompanies them in their concerts and they have helped raised thousands of pounds for charity.

Ryan was also involved as an accompanist at the International Opera Summer School at Porthcawl in 2010, organised by renowned soprano, Patricia O'Neill.

He had the opportunity to work with singers, conductors and directors from all over Europe and the UK.

The compère for the evening is Huw Irranca-Davies, MP for Ogmore.

Tickets can be obtained from any of the choir's choristers or from Llangynwyd post office, at a cost of £8 per person.

The choir rehearses at Maesteg Celtic cricket club on Thursday evenings between 7pm-9pm, visitors and new members are most welcome.

## Ogmore Valley Male Voice Choir

THE choir, which does a great deal for charity, will be performing in a Remembrance Day concert in the village hall, Dinas Powys on Saturday, October 15, at 7pm.

## Meet your local bobby

THE next Police coffee morning for the Newton area in Porthcawl is on October 24 (10am-11am) at Newton Institute, Newton/Nottage Road. Everyone is welcome.

## Community Council provides new swing

A WICK family are thanking their local community council for improving local amenities.

Sol and Seth Jorgensen live in Wick, and Seth has recently been diagnosed with a genetic condition Mitochondrial Myopathy, at 20 years of age.

Seth's mother, Sol, said: "Basically, it means that his body struggles to change the sugars from food into basic energy. This affects the whole of his life and his every day."

"So we were so happy we when the community council provided a swing, a Freerider, that he could use as an adult."

"It is tested to hold the weight of two adults. This means a carer can also go on with him for safety when swinging high."

"Sometimes we have only an hour in the day when he can leave home before the condition's fatigue sets in."

"Now we can go to the local green and he can swing in the air and have fun in the small



Seth Jorgensen tries out the new swing.

amount of time allowed. "I must say that, as part of the executive committee of Carers Wales, I welcome this thoughtfulness in a local council, with many demands on their time and resources."

"Like so many other villages in Wales we have to make the money go further. This swing is an example. It was funded with the prize money from winning the South

Wales Area Calor Village of the Year Award in 2008.

"This award money was then used to gain match-funding from Creative Rural Communities."

"I wish that more councils had such foresight and ingenuity."

"All I can say that this purchase for the youth of our village has made one youth very happy. "Many thanks."

## New drive to get pupils on bikes

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) is working with UK charity Sustrans to encourage more children to walk and cycle to school.

The charity currently works with more than 1,000 schools across the UK to encourage children to cycle. Each school has its own Sustrans Bike It officer who devises a programme focusing on barriers preventing children from cycling to school. Schools working with the charity typically see the number of children regularly cycling to school at least double in the first year.

Louise Powell has

been appointed as the new Sustrans Bike It officer for the area. She said: "Cycling is a great form of exercise and so easy to fit into every-day activities. Cycling and walking is great for a child's health and independence, not to mention the environment – especially around the school gates."

Sustrans will initially begin working with 12 schools in the area, with funding from the Welsh government. Schools involved with the project so far: Llangynwyd Primary, Cwmfelin Primary, Cefn Cribwr Primary, Garth Primary, Maesteg Comprehensive, Maes yr Haul Primary, and Nottage Primary.



# DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME – THE BMX AND SKATEBOARD EXPERTS SHOW HOW

PORHCRAWL hosted the UK Pro Surfing Championships last weekend (October 8-9).

The surf championships were part of the the Porthcawl 'Splash UP' Festival and the event also brought a number of adrenalin-packed extreme sports to Rest Bay, and there was street dancing in John Street in the town.

Over the weekend, some of the UK's top surfers competed for the national title and in addition, some of the country's top skateboard and BMX professionals performed at a purpose-built skate park, which was built at Rest Bay for the duration of the event.

Dave Reed, the chief executive officer of UK Pro Surf said: "We were delighted to work with Bridgend Council to bring our National Pro surfing tour to Porthcawl."

Photographs by  
MALCOLM NUGENT



ABOVE: A BMX expert takes off!



ABOVE: This photograph was taken by Trevor Owen.



ABOVE: Waiting for the waves!



'Come fly with me'.



There were lessons for beginners from a local surfing school.



# 50 years of service to the Barnardo's charity and June is still going strong!

"THE most remarkable, amazing, hard-working woman I have ever met!" That is how one person has described a Barry woman who has just celebrated 50 years of raising funds for Barnardo's.

Mrs June Davis, pictured, is still an inexhaustible bundle of energy at 83 years of age, having brought up a family, served for 37 years as a junior school teacher, and supported the Barry Barnardo's Helpers' Group for 50 years.

In fact, on the day The GEM visited her, despite the chilly temperature and a ferocious, westerly wind, she was bustling about in her back garden.

She broke off for half an hour to recall her early life in Barry and how she got involved in local charity work.

June was born at Crogan Hill - "the part of Barry Road before the

Jenner Park area" - and was educated at Barry Girls' Grammar School, and then began her teaching career in Cardiff.

Married to husband Hedley in 1955, she and Hedley began supporting Barnardo's six years later.

"The committee used to meet in Dr William Hughes's surgery in Park Road," she said.

"Dr Hughes was a wonderful character, with a great sense of humour and was a true friend to people. He and his wife Cicely were both involved.

"Our activities in support of Barnardo's were numerous - and different!

For years, Hedley, the choirmaster at All Saints Church, helped to arrange Christmas concerts in Queen Street, with the help of Cantonian High School band and choir, often raising more than £1,000 a time for the charity.

The couple also 'imported' Laura Ashley

by TIM CHAPMAN



outfits from Bath, and stored them at home, before holding fashion sales at Bindles.

June, who has a daughter Bethan and son Ioan, was widowed 14 years ago, but her enthusiasm for helping others has never wavered.

She said: "As a committed, we have soldiered

on over the decades.

"Throughout most of that time, the number of people involved on the helpers' group has stayed around the 12 mark.

"Nowadays, we still organise local events: mince pies and carols; hot cross buns and coffee at Easter; a strawberry tea in the summer; and

we're just starting to organise a cheese and wine event."

All this, and June still works in the family's restaurant, 'Hedley's', based at the Knap.

"I do weekends, and during the week when needed," she said.

Her neighbour, Lisa Hadley, contacted The GEM because she wanted June's 50 years of selfless service not to go unrecognised.

Lisa said: "She is the most remarkable, amazing, hard-working woman I have ever met.

"June is 83 years of age, but she never stops working, caring and putting others before herself.

"She plays bowls for the Millward ladies' team, is president of the local floral society and works in the evenings at the restaurant."

Although she has reached a charity 'half-century', June says she plans to continue her service for Barnardo's in the future.

## PENSIONERS TARGETED IN 'DESPICABLE' BURGLARIES

**DETECTIVES have named two brothers they want to speak to after three local pensioners were targeted in "despicable" distraction burglaries.**

South Wales Police are looking into a series of seven burglaries in their area, including one in Bridgend, one in Barry and one in Wenvoe in the Vale of Glamorgan, which they say may be linked to a series of similar offences across the UK.

Police say they are keen to trace two brothers, Michael Steven Myers, 31, and Patrick Joseph Myers, 30, who they want to speak to in connection with the crimes.

In August this year, a man knocked at the home of an 89-year-old woman from Bridgend, claiming that someone had broken the window at the back of her house with a catapult.

While the pensioner was distracted, the man stole cash from her home.

In the same month in Wenvoe, an 85-year-old woman reported finding an intruder in the house, who claimed to have found a boy who had smashed her back window. Cash was stolen in this incident.

And in September, a 94-year-old man in Barry was targeted. In this case, a man shouted through the letterbox stating his son had possibly smashed a rear window with a catapult and asking to pay for the damages.

An accomplice was also reported to be in the house, police said.

Detectives said similar techniques were used to gain access to homes of elderly people in the incidents in Bridgend, the Vale of Glamorgan and in Cardiff.

A national police group believes the same men might also be responsible for 16 simi-



Patrick Myers



Michael Myers

lar offences in Wiltshire, Gloucester, Thames Valley, West Mercia, Gwent, London, and the West Midlands over the summer.

Thousands of pounds in cash and other items have been stolen from the victims, aged in their 80s and 90s. In almost every case the burglars have fabricated a story about smashing a window then wanting to inspect the damage.

Detective Chief Inspector Andy Davies from South Wales Police said: "This type of crime is despicable. Victims of distraction burglary can suffer terribly, both emotionally and physically.

"The average age of the victims in south Wales is 86, which gives you an idea of how cowardly these burglars are in targeting the most vulnerable people in our communities.

"We are working with police forces across the country to track down those responsible so they can be brought to justice."

The 23 burglaries are being investigated by Operation Liberal, a national unit that analyses intelligence and

maintains a database of crimes, offenders, vehicles, forensic information and images.

Police said the Myers brothers have strong links to south Wales, particularly Cardiff.

Michael Myers is wanted after absconding from prison in 2010 following his sentencing of eight years for a distraction burglary in 2008.

Police also want to speak to his younger brother about a burglary in the Metropolitan Police area.

DCI Davies, who is based in Cardiff, added: "We will pursue those responsible until they are caught to give the victims peace of mind and to protect others. It is vital people do not allow strangers into their home and that they check the identity of any callers."

For advice on how to deal with unannounced doorstep callers and how people can help others, log onto [www.doorstepcallers.co.uk](http://www.doorstepcallers.co.uk).

Anyone with any information is asked to call 02920 774 233 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Protest group's meeting over Llynfi Valley biomass plant

**CAMPAIGNERS against the proposed Llynfi Biomass Power Plant at Llangynwyd, Maesteg, have called a public meeting.**

The meeting is being hosted by Llynfi Environmental Action Forum (LEAF).

At the meeting there will be presentations from LEAF members and guest speakers, followed by an open discussion.

It takes place on Monday, October 17, at 7pm in the Philip Squire Community Hall, Coytrahean.

A spokesperson said: "Local communities of the Llynfi Valley have mobilised to form an action group, LEAF, to oppose a planning application by Morgan Credit Energy (Wales) Ltd

to build a 25 MW biomass power station in the heart of the Llynfi Valley - an area of great natural beauty.

"The plant will require 800 tonnes of wood a day to generate electricity, which will be shipped into Newport Dock from as far away as Latvia or Canada.

"The developer proposes to run a new train approximately 400 metres in length on the Bridgend to Maesteg line outside passenger hours, affecting every resident living near the line.

"Until then, around 52 lorries a day will make return journeys on the already busy and hazardous A4063."

LEAF members say they also have concerns about pollution, tourism, fire risk and the sustainability of the process.

## Young critics learn to refine their judgement

**TWO Bridgend Young Critics scheme members, Rachel Williams and Chelsey Gillard, recently took part in the New Critics day at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, organised by Literature Wales and The National Theatre of Wales.**

The Bridgend Young Critics scheme developed from a National Theatre Wales production in Bridgend in October 2010, after Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community development unit secured funding from Arts Council Wales.

The event, on Saturday, October 1, was an afternoon of discussion and debate and offered an exclusive insight into the world of critical writing, from some of the UK's leading arts critics.

The event marked the end of National Theatre Wales and Literature Wales' pioneering new critics scheme, in which four emerging arts critics in Wales were given development opportunities, training and mentoring throughout National Theatre Wales's first year of work.

Bridgend young critic



*Pictured left to right are young critic Rachel Williams, artistic director of National Theatre Wales, John McGrath, and young critic Chelsey Gillard.*

Rachel Williams was invited to join the panel discussion and offer her response to critical writing in the arts from the perspective of a young person.

Rachel said: "As a young critic, I have been given fabulous opportunities to explore my critical voice and experience things I would not normally have the chance to see."

John McGrath, artistic director of National Theatre Wales added: "I have been very impressed by the quality of the reviews and critiques produced by the young critics involved in the programme.

"It is great to have young people's voices at the centre of the debate

about theatre in Wales."

To get involved in the scheme, call Bridgend County Borough Council's arts projects officer Guy O'Donnell on (01656) 642727, or email: [guy.odonnell@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:guy.odonnell@bridgend.gov.uk).

## New play staged in the Berwyn

**IF you enjoy live performance and original comedy drama, head to the council-run Berwyn Centre on Friday, October 14, at 8pm.**

Phillip Rattray is a new local playwright who has produced a one-act play, specifically to be performed in the Berwyn Centre's Round Room.

Centred on the pub's 'jam night', Philip was inspired to write the play

as it combines his passion for music and drama.

Discussing the inspiration behind the setting for the play, Philip said: "I've met lots of big characters at jam nights in my time as a musician. They're people you recognise no matter where you go and this is the story of what goes on when these big personalities meet."

Tickets (£5) are available from Phillip Rattray on 07722 872386.

## Three libraries close their doors

**BLAENGARW, Caerau and Nantymoel Libraries have now closed their doors.**

The Mobile Library has stops in Caerau at present, but new stops are being included in the timetable for Blaengarw and Nantymoel:

Blaengarw  
Alternative library - Pontycymer  
Calling every third Thursday from October 20 at 9.35am-10.15am, Station Street; 10.20am-10.35am, Gwendoline Street; 10.40am-10.55am, Pwllcarn Terrace; 11am-11.15am, Marian Street

Nantymoel  
Alternative library - Ogmoe Valley Life Centre  
Calling every third Tuesday from October

11 at 9.35am-9.50am, Brynogy Terrace, Pricetown; 9.55am-10.25am, Berwyn Centre; 10.30am-10.55am, Dinam Street, shop; 11am-11.15am, Bryant Centre, Howell Street. Caerau  
Alternative library - Maesteg  
Every third Thursday from October 4 at Metcalf Street, 9.40am - 10.05am; Library Road, 10.10am - 10.30am; Blaenllynfi Hotel, 10.35am - 10.50am; Caerau Park Estate, 10.55am - 11.05am; Treharne Road, 11.10am - 11.25am; Tudor Estate, 11.30am - 11.45am.

For more information, see the libraries pages on [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk).

## Art Society

**COWBRIDGE Art Society meets on Thursday, October 20, at 7pm in the annexe of Old Hall, High Street.**

Tracy Williams of Cardiff will be giving a demonstration in acrylics called 'memories'. Non-members are very welcome to attend.

The Art Society now has its own website giving all kinds of information on activities, programme for the year, plus a section dealing with sales on [www.cowbridgeartsociety.com](http://www.cowbridgeartsociety.com).

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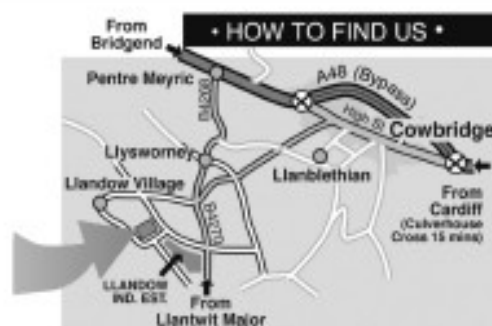
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## SALE ENDS SUNDAY 5PM SHARP!

ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

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## Mayor visits children's centre



THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun John Clifford, recently paid a visit to the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre in Llantwit Major and met the staff and service users.

The centre is part of the charity Action for Children and provides play and educational facilities for families and young children.

The mayor and staff at the centre are planning a Christmas fayre for December 9.

The mayor at the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre.

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## 'New lottery is a threat to Ty Hafan'

### CHARITY'S CLAIM

TY HAFAN, the family hospice for young people, is encouraging people in south Wales to turn their backs on the new 'Health Lottery', warning that it could deprive local children and young people with life-limiting illnesses of vital care services.

The popular local children's charity fears that people might choose to play the new lottery, and that local charities such as Ty Hafan could suffer.

David Griffiths, the lottery manager for Ty Hafan, said: "Our weekly hospice lottery is an essential source of income, and last year it contributed 40 per cent

of the money we need to provide our free specialist care services for local families.

"We're extremely concerned, therefore, that the new Health Lottery could divert significant amounts of money away from local hospice care which is the last thing we need in this already difficult economic climate.

"Playing the Health Lottery might sound like a good idea for those who wish to support good causes, but the fact is it will only donate 20p to charity for every £1 spent on tickets – the absolute minimum amount required by law.

"Also, because it's a national initiative, players can never be sure exactly who they will be supporting with the money they give to the

Health Lottery."

He insisted that far more of the ticket price reaches its target in Ty Hafan's case.

He said: "For every £1 received by Ty Hafan Lottery, 55p goes directly towards hospice care in the local area, so players can rest assured that their money is being well spent in their own community.

"With government providing only 15 per cent of our funding, we depend upon our lottery to keep going.

"It's for this reason that we're urging people who care about their local hospice to say 'No' to the Health Lottery."

Camelot, which runs the National Lottery, gives 40 per cent of total sales (28 per cent to good causes and 12 per cent in lottery duty to the Government).

Ty Hafan's 'No to the Health Lottery' campaign is being supported by Help the Hospices, the national charity for hospice care.

David Praill, chief executive of Help the Hospices, said: "In these already challenging times, we are very concerned that this new lottery could have a serious impact on the funds generated by hospice lotteries that take place every week across the UK.

"Hospices are local charities rooted in the communities they serve, and although hospice care is free for seriously ill people and their families, it is not free to provide, and collectively hospices have to raise more than £500 million every year.

"Since the early 1990s, hospice lotteries have been an important source of income for hospices across the UK and together raise nearly £50 million each year, with more than half of the money raised contributing directly to local hospice care for people with terminal and life-limiting illnesses."

The Health Lottery is owned by Richard Desmond, the owner of the *Daily Express* newspaper, who also owns Channel 5.

The first draw took place on Saturday, October 8, on ITV1 and Channel 5 hosted by Melinda Messenger, and ticket-holders had the chance to win a top prize of up to £100,000 for matching five numbers between 1 and 50.

Around 40,000 outlets across Great Britain are selling tickets, from independent store owners through to national retailers including WH Smith, Sainsburys, Morrisons, Tesco and Asda.

## Learning about Ivor Novello

RHOOSE WI met on October 6 at the village hall, Stewart Road.

Vice-president Jill Jones welcomed members and said how pleasing it was to see so many visitors and potential new members.

After *Jerusalem* was sung and safety instructions and apologies for absence were made, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and the financial and welfare reports given.

The members then settled down to listen to the speaker for the evening, Mr Alan Thorne, who gave a talk on the life and times of Ivor Novello. This proved to be very enjoyable, giving an insight into how prolific and multi-talented this famous Cardiff-born actor/composer/producer was.

Afterwards, members

were reminded that the AGM will take place on November 3, and that nominations for the new committee should be made. The raffle was won by one of the visitors.

Ms Ella Waddingham, and the winner of the October competition was Mrs Margaret Lloyd. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Forthcoming events:

- Friday, October 14: Lunch Club at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, 12.30pm for 1pm (members may also wish to visit the Glamorgan Quilters' exhibition prior to lunch).

- Friday, October 21: skittles at the Rhose Social Club starting at 2pm, followed by tea and cake at coffee time.

- Thursday, November 3: Rhose WI AGM, 7.30pm, the village hall, Stewart Road, Rhose. The WI Advisor will be Ms Sheena Sargeant.

## AM's support for Waverley

VALE resident AM, Andrew RT Davies, has written to Scottish Conservative MSPs to raise awareness of growing support in the Vale for the campaign to keep the *Waverley* afloat.

He also urged other Conservative MSPs to support the motion being tabled in the Scottish Parliament.

Andrew said: "I have been contacted by many constituents in recent days, all anxious to do anything possible to preserve what is the only sea-faring paddle steamer in the world.

"As I understand it, the primary issue is a shortfall in finances, but it is certainly very heartening to see the support that is being generated here in south Wales, and in particular Penarth.

"I have contacted colleagues in Scotland urging them to support the motion and would urge all concerned locals to do the same, to ensure that they are aware of the strong feelings of support for the vessel."

Stormy weather forced the *Waverley* to cut its summer season of sailings short by almost two weeks. Customers were offered refunds.

## Morgan family lands Great Taste award for lamb

FARMING family C & G Morgan and Son from Gellifeddgaer Farm, Blackmill, Bridgend, are celebrating after winning a prestigious 2011 Great Taste Award.

The company was presented with a coveted (two-star) Gold Great Taste Award for its own farm-reared rack of lamb.

The Morgan family are ninth generation family farmers who pride themselves on rearing quality produce on their Welsh hill farm, which is located on the outskirts of Bridgend.

Over the last 12 years they have diversified into direct sales, selling from their farm gate as

well as at Bridgend and Caerphilly farmers' markets.

It has proved to be a most successful venture for the family, culminating in being recognised for the hard work and effort involved in producing a quality product.

Gill Morgan, who was thrilled to win another prestigious award, said: "We are delighted with the success once again.

"It is very important to us to maintain a quality status, to be successful with our lamb this year, in addition to winning in previous years with our beef, is very worthwhile. Our son is in charge of the stock and it is his expertise that we rely on to produce meat with exceptional taste."

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Contact the farm for further details.

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Tel/Fax: 01443 672357

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*The GEM will be keeping readers updated on all the news in the run-up to next year's Festival.*

## Mae'r GEM yn falch o fod yn un o bartneriaid swyddogol Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg, 2012

### The GEM is proud to be an official partner of The Vale of Glamorgan 2012 Eisteddfod

**M**AE'R Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, a fydd yn ymweld â Bro Morgannwg y flwyddyn nesaf yn un o wyliau mawr y byd ac yn sic o ddenu pobl o bob oed i'r ardal yn ystod mis Awst 2012. Mae'r Eisteddfod, fodd

bynag, yn dipyn mwy na gwyl wythnos o hyd.

Mae'r Eisteddfod yn ffrwyth llafur dwy flynedd o waith caled, gyda thim cryf o wirfoddolwyr lleol yn hyrwyddo a chodi arian ar gyfer yr Wyl dros y cyfnod.

Mae'r cystadlaethau erbyn hyn yn eu lle - a dyddiadau cau ar gyfer yr cystadlaethau llenyddol cyntaf yn prysur

agosáu. Felly os ydych chi'n bwriadu cystadlu ar gyfer y Fedal Ryddiaith neu Wobr Goffa Daniel Owen dyma'ch cyfle olaf i fwrw golwg dros y gwaith, rhaid i bopeth gyrraedd Swyddfa'r Trefnydd erbyn 1 Rhagfyr eleni. Ceir manylion ar sut i gystadlu a rhestr lawn o'r cystadlaethau ar wefan yr Eisteddfod - [www.eisteddfod.org.uk](http://www.eisteddfod.org.uk)

- yna cliciwch 2012 ac yna 'dyddiadau allweddol'. Mae gan Fro Morgannwg hanes diddorol gyda'r Eisteddfod. Mae'r Wyl wedi ymweld â'r ardal ar ddau achlysur yn y gorffennol gyda thref y Barri yn gartref i'r Eisteddfod yn 1920 ac yn 1968. Mae hanes diddorol i'r ddau dro. Yn 1920, ganwyd y Babel Llen, ac yn

1968, gwelwyd Theatr y Maes am y tro cyntaf. Erbyn hyn wrth gwrs mae'r ddau bafiliwn ymhlith prif atyniadau unrhyw Eisteddfod.

Cynhaliwyd Eisteddfod 1920 ym Mharc Romilly yn y Barri a chodwyd pafiliwn enfawr ar gyfer yr achlysur. Ar y pryd hwn oedd y pafiliwn mwyaf a godwyd ar gyfer unrhyw Eisteddfod, gyda lle i 12,000 i eistedd a lle i 3,000 arall i sefyll.

Enillydd y goron oedd James Evans o Ynyshir yn y Rhondda. Cafwyd tipyn o gynwrf o ddeall ei fod yn gweithio fel glöwr. Croesawyd y bardd i'r llwyfan gan yr Archdderwydd a cymaint oedd y swm yn y pafiliwn fel y bu'n rhaid iddo gyfarch y dorf gan ddefnyddio 'megaffon'.

Codwyd hwyly y dorf yn fwy byth wrth ddarganfydd bod y goron yn rhy fach i ben y bardd a bu iddi lithro o'i ben!

Ni fu teilyngdod yn y Gadair fodd bynnag gyda'r beirniaid yn dyfarnu nad oedd yr un o'r deg ymgeisydd wedi cyrraedd y safon.

Oes gennych chi luniau neu atgofion o Eisteddfodau 1920 neu 1968? Os felly cysylltwch â ni. Anfonwch e bost at [gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk](mailto:gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk) er mwyn sicrhau bod eich stori chi yn

dod yn rhan o hanes yr Eisteddfod.

**THE National Eisteddfod, which visits the Vale of Glamorgan next year, is one of the world's greatest cultural festivals, which will attract people of all ages to the region at the beginning of August.**

But the Eisteddfod is far more than a week-long summer event. The festival itself is the culmination of two years' work, with a strong team of local volunteers promoting and fundraising for the festival over the whole period.

The competitions have been decided - the closing date for the first few literary competitions is December 1, so if you're planning on entering a novel or prose, it's time to give it the final once over and send it to the Eisteddfod Office. If you're thinking of competing on stage or in some of the other literary competitions, you've got more time, and details of all the closing dates and the list of competitions are available on the 2012 Eisteddfod website - [www.eisteddfod.org.uk](http://www.eisteddfod.org.uk) - then click on 2012

and 'key dates'.

The Vale of Glamorgan has an interesting association with the Eisteddfod and the festival has visited the Vale on two previous occasions with Barry being the host town in 1920 and again in 1968.

Both visits had notable firsts with the first ever Literature Pavilion on the Maes (festival site) appearing at the 1920 Barry Eisteddfod and a Theatre pavilion appearing for the first time at the 1968 Eisteddfod. Both the Theatre and Literature Pavilions remain to this day as two of the most popular attractions on the Eisteddfod site.

The 1920 Eisteddfod was held in Romilly Park and a huge pavilion was erected for the event - the structure had a seating capacity of 12,000 with room for a further 3,000 standing.

The Crown was won by James Evans from Ynyshir in the Rhondda who received a rapturous reception by the crowd on announcement of the fact that he was a working coal miner.

The bard was greeted on the stage by the Archdderwydd who quickly realised that the large crowd would find it hard to hear him, so a megaphone was found



### A wyddoch Chi? Did you Know?

1. Defnyddir tua chwe millir o wifrau trydan ar Faes yr Eisteddfod bob blwyddyn.

2. Six miles of electric cabling is used on the Eisteddfod site each year.

3. Defnyddir tua 330,000 galwyn o ddwr yn yr Eisteddfod bob blwyddyn.

4. Every year at the Eisteddfod, 330 gallons of water is used.

5. Defnyddir tua phum millir o bapur ty bach yn ystod yr Eisteddfod bob blwyddyn.

6. Five miles of toilet roll is used on the site each year.

In order for the Archdderwydd to make himself heard. The mood in the pavilion was further lifted by the discovery that the crown was too small and slipped from the bard's head!

The chair, however, remained empty, with adjudicators announcing that none of the 10 entries were worthy of the prize.

Do you have any memories or photos of the 1920 or 1968 Eisteddfod? If so, get in touch with the office. Send an e mail to [gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk](mailto:gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk) and make sure that your story is part of our history.



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**RECENTLY, the annual South Wales Business Awards were held in the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge.**

The awards have been developed and launched by WS Marketing and are sponsored by Lloyds TSB Commercial Centre For Enterprise - University of Glamorgan, Careers Wales, the Vale Council and the Centre of Excellence in Mobile Applications and Services (CEMAS) - University of Glamorgan

The winners were:

- Young Entrepreneur of the Year - Rachael Flanagan - Mrs Bucket Cleaning Services.

- New Start-up of the Year - MHM Plant Ltd.

- Retail Business of the Year - The Wales Golf Holiday Company.

- Business Services Business of the Year - Wolfestone Translation.

- Female Entrepreneur of the Year - Donna Turner-Kot-n-ergy Group Ltd in Bridgend.

- Social Enterprise of the Year - Cycle Training Wales.

- Technological & Innovative Business of the Year - SmileyTalk of Talbot Green.

- Contribution to South Wales Business 2011 - William McNamara - Bluestone National Park.

- South Wales Business of the Year 2011 - Cycle Training Wales.

The evening was also an opportunity for the businesses in attendance to show their generosity, and £740 was raised on the evening for the nominated charity Tenovus.



**Martin Harris of Smiley Talk (Talbot Green) receives his award from Khalid Al-Begain, the director of the Centre of Excellence for Mobile Applications and Services (CEMAS) at the University of Glamorgan.**



**Tricia Murray and John Bevan accepting an award on behalf of Donna Turner-Kot (Bridgend). It was presented by Lyn Daunt of the University of Glamorgan**



**Ian Harvey (Commercial relationship manager) Lloyds TSB, Jon Howes (workshop coordinator) Cycle Training Wales, Professor Gary Packham (head of the Glamorgan Business School and head of research, faculty of business and society).**



## VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

## REVITALISING HIGH STREET SHOPPING

Over the last few weeks I have met chambers of trade and business across the Vale to find out what issues they face on their High Streets.

This is particularly relevant considering pressure from national chains, the internet and out of town shopping. At the beginning of the summer, the government launched a High Street review, led by Mary Portas, to identify what government, local authorities and businesses can do to promote the development of more prosperous and diverse high streets.

The review will also explore new business models for High Streets relevant to the modern consumer.

As part of the evidence-gathering exercise, I was keen to find out from our local traders in Llantwit Major, Cowbridge and our largest town, Barry, what they thought legislation, businesses and the local public sector could do to help create more diverse, successful and sustainable High Streets.

It was great to meet such a diverse range of business owners from the Vale who are all clearly passionate about their businesses and the communities they are a part of.

From fashion retailers to a start-up children's play centre, all are keen to continue trading on their High Streets, despite tough trading conditions in recent times.

As I met members from the various chambers of trade, it became apparent that retailers across each of our towns in the Vale do share some common



**Vale MP  
Alun Cairns**  
reports to GEM readers

challenges.

Parking for shoppers and staff is clearly a key concern for many businesses. Car parking provision and management is a major influence on not only destination choice for shoppers, but also the pattern of development within an area.

I will be taking up the matter with the local authority to see how best we can tackle these challenges.

Signage is another obvious issue that should be addressed. Key to stimulating visitors and shoppers is the lack of signage from the main trunk routes of the M4 and from the A48 to our main towns.

I intend to explore, with the Welsh Government and the local authority, the opportunities for improving signage and raising the visibility of routes

to our wonderful shopping hubs.

It is also clear that promotion and communication between towns and villages can also play a part in growing tourism across the Vale.

Anyone visiting Barry, possibly as a result of Gavin and Stacey promotions, needs to hear about Llantwit Major, and the ease of access to the town by train needs to be known to visitors.

Similarly, visitors to the historical churches in Llantwit or other rural sites should also be pointed in the direction of Cowbridge.

Business rates are also a pressure and I hope there will be recommendations to support local traders on our high streets. We in Wales were hit by the re-evaluation at the peak of the market, which didn't happen in the same way in England.

I have made my views known to the Welsh Government on this.

I'm keen to see healthy High Streets across the Vale – that continue to draw in not only local residents but those who choose to visit us from further afield, as destination shoppers and tourists.

I will feed back the suggestions from the Vale's chambers of trade to make sure that the voice of the retailers within our rural and urban towns in the Vale are taken into account.

The Mary Portas Review is due to be published later this year.

It's vital that we promote growth, create jobs and make sure our independent retailers thrive and continue to play such a pivotal role in our communities.

## WALKERS MUST TAKE CARE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

**I** WRITE this letter on Sunday evening after rounding up livestock that had escaped after walkers had failed to secure a gate.

Two walkers had tried to use the footpath through our fields near Welsh St Donats at approximately 12.30pm but had taken the incorrect route.

Although this in itself was not an

issue, leaving a gate undone was unforgivable.

It was pure luck that we noticed the stock were loose; their exit could easily have led them on to the A48 with potentially disastrous consequences.

This incident highlights the need for walkers to (a) adhere to designated footpaths and (b) be especially vigilant when closing gates.

Jane Groves, Welsh St Donats

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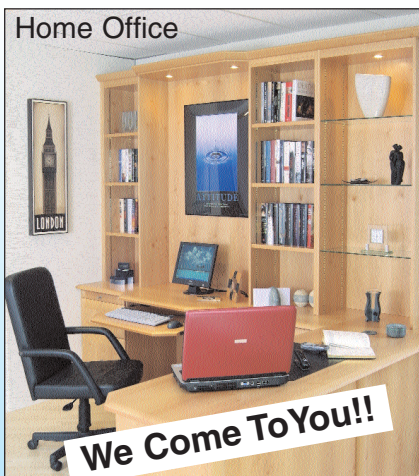
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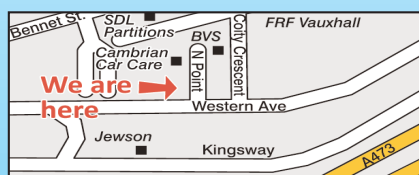
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## ADVERTISING FEATURE

# Fresh round of funding for Vale farming families

**A** NEW initiative, Pride in our Farming Families, has been set up to provide a major boost to farming families in the rural Vale.

The scheme is offering grants of up to £40,000, to help farmers develop new aspects of their business by diversifying into non-agricultural activities.

The scheme is one of six new funding programmes run by Creative Rural Communities (CRC), the Vale's rural regeneration initiative. By working with local farming families to develop new and innovative ways to boost income, Creative Rural Communities hopes to help sustain the farming economy in the area.

Nia Hollins, senior rural regeneration

officer at CRC, said: "Pride in our Farming Families has been established to encourage local farmers to find long-term solutions that will allow them to continue farming through subsidising the farm's income in alternative ways.

"We're looking for new ideas which will add to the visitor appeal of the Vale and help generate or safeguard jobs.

"The Vale is home to a significant number of four and five star accommodation providers, so we would like to see applications for more alternative offers such as 'glamping', eco-friendly campsites and bunk houses to broaden its appeal to groups and families.

"Other business ventures could be to open up a farm shop, turn the farm into a hands-on visitor experience or transform spare land into an outdoor activity centre. We are open to ideas."

Norman Jenkins, a local farmer and chair of CRC, said: "This is an exciting project which is already generating a great deal of interest among the farming community in the Vale.

"We are delighted to be able to offer this funding and look forward to seeing some very exciting projects come to fruition through the Pride in our Farming Families programme."

Creative Rural Communities is a regeneration and economic development initiative led by the Vale Council in partnership with various public, private and voluntary sector organisations.

The project is funded through the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

As well as farming, there are funding programmes available for villages, heritage, basic services, tourism and community grown food, which

will strengthen communities and businesses in the rural Vale.

Applicants are invited to apply if they wish to introduce a new, non-agricultural activity to their farm.

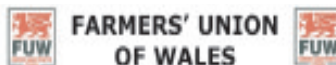
Applicants must demonstrate that it will boost the income to the farm as well as generating or sustaining jobs.

The funding is available until December 2013.

For further information contact: Nia Hollins on 01446 775388 or email [nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

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## Kenson Bridge is blocked by a transporter!



Stuck on Kenson Bridge.

**ON October 8, a transporter vehicle blocked Kenson Bridge near Penmark.**

GEM reader Gavin Davies said: "At about 8.30am on Thursday, the transporter turned off the main road by the airport towards Penmark, despite the sign saying the lane is unsuitable for heavy vehicles.

"At the entrance to the village is a new sign warning of a weak bridge ahead. The driver continued through the village, collecting a size-

able tree which travelled for quite a long way on top of the new cars before it fell off!

"He tried to cross the old curved stone bridge which crosses the Kenson River between Penmark and Llancafarn, but never made it. The trailer stuck on the curve of the bridge, totally blocking the road until about 2pm."

Mr Davies added: "Incidentally, the Vale of Glamorgan Council did an excellent job getting workmen to repair a damaged sign within an hour."



The tree after its 'ride'!

## Helping those who are living below the poverty line



**THE** above photograph shows me with much-needed warm clothing which has been donated and will be sent to Tanzania.

I have visited the remote, isolated mountain village community in the West Sambora Mountains of Tanzania on two occasions.

It is a hard-working community, living well below the recognised international poverty line of a dollar per day per person.

Warm, rainproof clothing is essential. If people are interested in what is being achieved, further information is available at [www.villageafrica.org.uk](http://www.villageafrica.org.uk).

I plan to revisit the community in the near future for the third time.  
Roy Gee, Dinas Powys.

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Rydyn ni'n cynnig hyd at £40,000\*\* i ffermwyr ddatblygu gweithgaredd newydd sydd ddim yn amaethyddol i arallgyfeirio'u busnes.

**TO FIND OUT MORE CONTACT: OS AM FWY O FANYLION CYSTLTIWCH A:**  
Nia Hollins on 01446 775388 or [nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

\*You must farm a min 550 hours per year, have a CRN and CFN number and be located in the rural Vale to be eligible. \*\* Rural Vale of Glamorgan does not include the wards of Barry, Penarth or Llanoughor. Grants are available up to a maximum £40k or 70% of the total project cost, whichever is the lowest.

\*Mae'n rhaid gweithredu ar y fferm am leiaf 550 awr y flwyddyn, bod # rhif Cystiantwr Cwmnïau a Rhif Datblygu a rhif busnes heb hysbysu i'r awdurdod. \*\* Dim o'r ffermwyr sydd yn gweithredu yrru'r fferm, Penarth neu Llanoughor. Mae'r grantiau ar gael hyd at £40,000 neu 70% o'r gost ystyriaeth, gwybodaeth yrru'r awdurdod.



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## NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE AND LLANTWIT MAJOR ROTARY CLUBS

### Vale Rotarians bring a touch of Ascot to Torquay



ABOVE: The Rotarians putting on the old 'razzle dazzle' in Torquay!

BEING a Rotarian is not all about collecting for charity.

Last weekend, Rotarians from all over south Wales travelled to Torquay for their annual conference.

During the two days there were many inspiring talks on subjects ranging from the activities of charities such as Tenovus and Bobath, to the

incredible work done by the Starfish project to improve the lives of severe stutterers.

The conference finished with a thought provoking environmental presentation by the BBC reporter, David Shuckman, entitled 'Reporting from the ends of the Earth'.

The highlight for Rotarians from Cowbridge and Llantwit Major was the Friday

evening's entertainment, which included a fancy dress competition on the theme of characters from the shows.

The Cowbridge club president's wife, Ros Jones, persuaded members of the two clubs to dress in their finery to represent the Ascot scene from *My Fair Lady* and this combined entry won the closely-contested competition.

BW

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## Scott Wroe opens his new state of the art Hearing Centre at ... 1 STATION APPROACH, PENARTH

*The hearing experts with a personal touch*

*If you have found you're a little hard of hearing lately, you are not alone. According to figures from the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, there are 8,257,000 people in the UK with mild to moderate deafness, and a further 688,000 with severe or profound deafness.*



Hearing loss is often associated with age so it's no surprise that 5,891,000 of the people with mild to moderate hearing loss are in the over 60s age group - that's 50 per cent of people over 60.



Until recently hearing aid technology was fairly basic. But new technology and the introduction of digital hearing aids have transformed the range of products available. Another benefit is that because of the technology it's been possible to reduce the size of hearing aids so that they are no longer the cumbersome things that they used to be.

So if you have noticed problems with hearing - for example you might ask people to repeat things, or you can't hear people properly when you're in a noisy room - you might benefit from a hearing test.

With the opening of Penarth's first dedicated hearing centre, clients will now have access to a totally Independent practice. We offer state of the art testing, fitting and aftercare service and also full speech mapping facilities. This enables Sue and Scott Wroe to confirm if hearing aids are performing correctly using real time speech which is visible via a wall mounted display.

The centre also has a dedicated fitting room which enables clients to see and hear the benefits of the new generation of digital hearing aids that link effortlessly with television and telephones including mobiles!

As a family business for over 35 years Scott and Sue Wroe pride themselves on offering a personal service to each and every one of their clients. All their hearing aids come with a 30-day free trial enabling their customers to test them with family and friends before any financial commitment.

**And with the opening of our new centre we will be providing free hearing test and assessment throughout October and November as well as special offers including either four or five year manufacturer warranties on all hearing aids dispensed!**



*So if you are finding it a little hard to hear things nowadays why not come and find out how we can help?*

**Scott Wroe  
Hearing Centre**

**1 Station Approach, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan. CF64 3EE  
Telephone: 02920 707760**



### Scott Wroe says:

*“Not many people are aware that many high street chains are tied to or owned by a particular hearing aid manufacturing company, severely curtailing the range of devices their dispensers can offer.*

*“What we do here is provide true independent advice on all the leading brands.*

*We are not owned nor have any affiliation with any particular manufacturer enabling us to recommend the best hearing aid for our client's particular needs.*

*“With the opening of our new centre we aim to not only to provide the very best products on the market but to ensure that our clients have the level of service and aftercare that I believe only a small family practice can offer.”*



### We provide:

- Independent advice
- Full hearing assessments
- Hearing aids available from all manufacturers
- 30 day free trials on all hearing aids
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# Kay takes the chair at council



The choir led the congregation out at the end of the service.

THE Pyle Community Council Civic Service on Sunday saw Kay John inducted as the new chair of the council.

Held last Sunday, October 9, the service was conducted by the Rev Jonathan Durley, and held in St Theodore's Church, Kenfig Hill.

It was followed by a reception at the Talbot Community Centre.

At the reception, Kay thanked the Rev Durley for an excellent service, the Talbot for the superb buffet, and also her guests who included the First Minister for Wales, Carwyn Jones; Madeleine Moon MP; the Mayor of Bridgend, Christopher Michaelides; chair of Connolly Community Council, Richard Granville; the chair of Cefn Cribwr Community Council, Marcie Grabham; BCBC councillor Clive James; clerk to the council, Harold Phillips; along with fellow community councillors; the police and fire service; representatives of the local churches and



ABOVE: Coun Kay John with Rev Jonathan Durley and Coun Chris Michaelides.

organisations and Kay's family. She thanked them all for supporting her and making her induction as chair to the

Pyle Community Council such a memorable day.

Report by Richard Sims

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Coun Kay John with representatives of the Guides.



ABOVE: The First Minister Carwyn Jones and Madeleine Moon MP.

## PUPILS SIGN UP FOR SANDVILLE DUTIES



FOR the ninth year in a row, aspiring medical students from local comprehensive schools are coming to the Sandville Self Help Centre on a Wednesday evening for 'on-the-job' practical experience.

This year, a record 25 students enrolled at Sandville. The A-level students, whose ages range from 16 to 18, are all volunteers and attend the centre to experience the many services provided by the foundation.

All the students are keen to be able to enter 'volunteering' on their CVs when applying for medical schools. The students also need the experience when applying for the Prince's Trust and

ABOVE: The students with honorary Chaplain, Rev Dr Duncan Walker and Sister Gwyneth Poacher.

Duke of Edinburgh awards.

For the latter awards, students are expected to reside at Sandville for a number of nights.

At Sandville, the 25 students will attend every Wednesday evening during the school term to get involved with the care of patients and help with various tasks and chores at the centre.

They will also attend lectures given by invited guest speakers on a variety of subjects, covering patient medicinal and nursing care.

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# Inspirational Homes and Gardens

## Taking a look at the positive benefits of a smaller living space!

If you are feeling cramped at home, it's not your imagination. A new report by the Royal Institute of British Architects has revealed that new build houses are now eight per cent smaller than they were in the 1980s, when rules on living space were lifted.

However, there is space-saving furniture and storage solutions that can make the most of every inch.

It may be a small comfort to know that it's not just your growing children, possessions and pets which are making even the largest space feel claustrophobic – homes have actually shrunk!

A new report by the

by GABRIELLE FAGAN

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), has revealed that new houses are generally smaller than they were 30 years ago.

On average, a new three-bedroom house in the UK is eight per cent smaller than the recommended minimum size.

Harry Rich, chief executive of RIBA, said: "Our new research confirms thousands of cramped houses – shameful shoebox homes – are being churned out all over the country."

Nationally, the organisation found that the missing space was equivalent to a single bedroom capable of taking a single bed, bedside table, wardrobe, desk and chair.

But instead of despairing or considering an expensive house move, it could be time to consider whether you're using your current space wisely and if its layout suits the way you want to live.

"If your home is small, or not as large as you'd like, every bit of it has to work for its keep," advised Elizabeth Willhide, whose inspiring book *Small Spaces* is packed with clever ideas.

"You may be able to discover hidden space in homes that has been

overlooked, as well as using space more effectively.

"A spare room could double as an office, a breakfast bar might improve a kitchen and a large bedroom could be divided.

"Storage can work wonders, too. Space under the stairs could provide an additional seating area, or be a utility cupboard.

"Stair treads can be transformed into drawers and a landing could be utilised for storage or a fitted desk."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)

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# Inspirational Homes and Gardens

## Who wants to build what, and where in the Vale?

Mrs Lisa Carson – **Shangri La, Barry Road, Dinas Powys** – Provisions for dog and staff welfare facilities at Labradoodles, including new buildings and retention of 4 no. cabins to

area 3B.  
Mrs Gwyneth Lingard – **Unit 2/3 Ty Verlon Industrial Estate, Cardiff Road, Barry** – Change of use to dedicated gymnastics facility.  
Mrs Victoria Meadows –

**1 Rheidol Drive, Barry** – Proposed first floor front extension and single storey rear extension.  
Mr Alan Hughes – **Southerndown Golf Club, Ogmores by Sea** – Covered golf trolley and buggy storage area.  
Mrs L Jones – **64 Plymouth Road, Barry** – Erection of white PVCU porch to front elevation.  
Mr Matthew Cant – **17 Elm Grove Road, Dinas Powys** – Single storey extension to the side and rear of property.

Mr and Mrs Thatcher – **Copper Beech, St Donats** – Single storey detached garage with pitched roof.  
Mr and Mrs J G Thomas – **2 Lynmouth Drive, Sully** – entrance porch extension.  
Mr Chris Migley – **49 Clive Place, Penarth** – The erection of a single storey rear extension and miscellaneous ancillary works.  
Mr and Mrs D Stoneham – **92 Millfield Drive, Cowbridge** –

Construction of two storey extension comprising of ground floor: porch, office, WC, utility and first floor – enlarge front bedroom, en-suite, new bedroom to rear.  
Mayflower Properties – **The Royal Hotel, 1 Barry Road, Barry** – Proposed use as Class A1 (shop).  
Dr Ian Harris – **Ar Yr Mynydd, Piccadilly, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – Fell pussy willow.  
Ms Laura Fudge – **Oak Cottage, Wick Road, St Brides Major** – Fell two conifer trees and reduce the canopy of an oak tree by 10 per cent.  
Mighty Oak Tree Solutions – **24 Archer Road, Penarth** – Various works to trees.  
Prof Michael McNamee – **25 Tair Onen, Cowbridge** – First floor balcony and refit windows and extend to sliding doors on first floor ensuite bedroom.  
Mr and Mrs S And G Tuck – **1 Elfed Avenue, Penarth** – New dwelling at the rear of 1 Elfed Avenue, Penarth.  
Square Foot Estate Agency – **49 Windsor Road, Penarth** – Rear ground floor extension.  
Mr Christopher Pope – **Unit 5, Heritage Business Park, Llantwit Major** – Siting of caravan and use as a taxi office.  
Mr Steve Jones – **The Stable, St Donats, Llantwit Major** – Porch and garage extension with room over and conversion of roof space to form habitable room.  
Mr Colin Anstee – **Land to rear of Willow Cottage, Treos** – Outline application for the construction of a detached dwelling.  
Mr David Lawal – **Former Oxfam Shop, Verity's Court, North Road, Cowbridge** – Change of use of coffee shop with a two-storey extension.  
Mr Richard Smith – **19 Sullivan Close, Penarth** – Single storey extension to rear of property.  
Mr Barry Melhuish – **Waterford House, 1 Ash Park, Ystradowen** – Construct small foundation and erect a masonry and glazed conservatory with a slated roof.  
Graham Bailey – **Brooklyn, Piccadilly, Llanblethian** – Extensions and alterations to dwelling, plus part conversion of garage to habitable accommodation.  
Mr Dave Edwards – **24 Maes y Ffynnon, Bonvilston** – Dormer wall on to rear of existing loft conversion at existing domestic dwelling.  
Dr Raghuram – **Kuteera, Peterston Super Ely** – Retention of previously erected cricket practice nets.  
Mr Bryn Davies – **Kristenson, Hillside Drive, Cowbridge** – Proposed ground floor kitchen extension and first floor roof/loft conversion.  
Mrs Claire Turner – 8

**Wood Street, Penarth** – Single storey rear extension and alterations.  
Mr and Mrs Rebecca Hooper – **102 Stanwell Road, Penarth** – Demolition of rear single storey garage.  
Mr John Howell – **Pont Y Werin, off Marconi Avenue, Penarth** – Construction of maintenance steps.  
Mr Hywel Jones – **71 Eastgate, Cowbridge** – Retention of new doors to rear and front following damage from burglary.  
C/o Agent – **The Paddocks, Penarth** – construction of a new single dwelling and associated works.  
Dr Subhashish Poddar – **65 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – creation of an off road parking area for one car in the front garden, to include removal of part of the front boundary wall, building of a new pillar to frame the entrance to the parking area, creating a crossover from the highway to the garden including a dropped kerb, block paving to the proposed area in the garden.  
Airparks Services Ltd – **Airparks Services, Port Road, Rhose, Barry** – double sided illuminated sign at vehicular entrance to Airparks site.  
Mr Mathew James Young – **19 Fairfield Rise, Llantwit Major** – removal of existing hardwood single glazed conservatory and replace with uPVC double glazed conservatory/utility/WC.  
Mr Anthony Kerslake – **3 Pardoe Crescent, Barry** – proposed extension to rear elevation and internal alterations to remodel dwelling.  
Lafarge Cement UK Ltd – **Aberthaw Works, East Aberthaw, Barry** – new storage silos.  
Mr Neil Stanger – **54 Cornwall Rise, Barry** – retrospective application for the erection of decking structure over existing garage, boundary fencing and pergola.  
Mr John Lindsay – **4 Tair Onen, Cowbridge** – two single storey extensions (one to west elevation and one to north elevation).  
One two storey extension to rear with loft room to be formed. Existing extension to be demolished.

Mr Paul Donovan – **6 Station Approach, Penarth** – single storey rear extension.  
Mr Paul Thomas – **Hazelwood, St Andrews Major, Dinas Powys** – Outline application with all matters reserved for a family self-care bungalow.  
Pant Y Liwydd Farm – **Heol Dafarn, St Mary Hill** – construction of a 100kW wind turbine.  
Mr John Williams – **14 Glastonbury Road, Sully, Penarth** – toilet extension.  
Mr Graham Gonthier – **3A Cornerswell Road, Penarth** – change of use from former hairdressing salon to café.  
Management Committee – **Roxburgh Garden Court, Plymouth Road, Penarth** – fell chestnut.  
Mr Johann Van Rooyen – **1 Chapel Terrace, Tyn-y-Odyn** – single storey

rear extension.  
Mr Mark Nicholls – **12 Palmerston Workshops, Palmerston Road, Barry** – change of use from B1 and B8 to B2.  
Mrs Chapman – **25 Pwll Y Min Crescent, Peterston Super Ely** – dismantle yew tree and 3m crown reduction of yew tree on boundary in front garden; 4m reduction of lower lateral branches on Turkey oak in rear garden.  
Mr Griffiths – **6 Robin Hill, Dinas Powys** – 8-9m reduction of height, shorten lateral branches and remove damaged branches to oak tree in front garden.  
Mr P and Mrs AM Sutton – **Cherry Trees, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys** – single storey extension, replacing existing extension.  
Peter Claburn – **Rowans, Llanbetherly** – two-storey rear extension.

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# Inspirational Homes and Gardens

## Size really doesn't matter in the home

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19)  
Designers, recognising the growing need for compact or multi-functional pieces, have used their talents to create excellent furniture and ingenious products for the space-starved.

"Small space living is something to celebrate. It doesn't have to mean settling for second best," insisted Wilhide.

"Focus on the benefits rather than the frustrations. Smaller spaces are easy to clean and cheaper to heat and run. With a more flexible approach to arranging your living space, you may find it suits you

after all."

Eleanor Davies, the group buyer for the Conran Shop, explained: "To make the most of small spaces, it's important to consider the place as a whole.

"Instead of thinking of conventional rooms devoted to separate functions, arrange whatever space you have in a flexible way. "Screens, room dividers and furniture which folds can be invaluable.

"Above all, focus on acquiring only what you will use, love or need. That way your home will be functional as well as beautiful."

## Top decorating tips for the home

by JULIA GREY

**W**ITH the winter months ahead, people turn their attention to decorating, and cleaning up properly can help you get the brushes out.

Here are some top tips:

Water-based paints are much nicer to use than oil-based ones, and also easier to remove.

They generally come off flooring, skin and clothes pretty easily with water, or water and household cleaner or sugar soap.

It's harder to remove oil-based paints, especially once they are dry, but fresh paint can usually be cleaned off with turpentine substitute (turps) or white spirit.

If you have to put either of these on your skin, wash it thoroughly afterwards with soap and water.

Large emulsion rollers

are a pain to clean, so if you've started painting with one and haven't finished, don't waste time cleaning it.

Instead, wrap it in a couple of plastic bags overnight. This will keep the paint moist, so it doesn't dry out, and you can carry on painting where you left off the next day. You can do the same with paintbrushes.

If you don't get rollers really clean, the paint will dry on the sleeve and ruin the finish next time you use it.

With emulsion rollers, it's a good idea to soak them in water first and then clean them thoroughly under a running tap – not very eco, I know – wringing them out constantly to remove the paint until the water runs clear.

Your paintbrushes should also be washed out in water or turps/white spirit, depending on the type of paint used.

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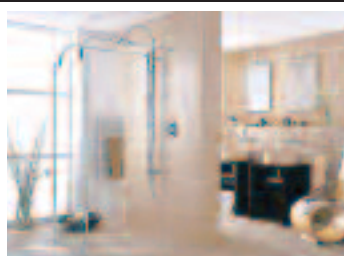
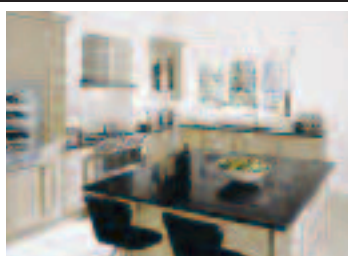
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## YOUNGSTERS VISIT LOCAL LIBRARY IN BOOK WEEK



ABOVE:

Pupils enjoying a story with teacher Miss Jones and the librarian, Miss Weeks.

CHILDREN from Y Bont Faen nursery classes enjoyed a visit to Cowbridge Library last week to celebrate Children's Book Week.

They enjoyed hearing a story and choosing books to read on their own.

## Back to nature for Dewi Sant pupils

THIS week, children in Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant, Llantwit Major have been embracing the autumn and have been enjoying collecting twigs and leaves, studying the colours of the leaves and using them to create lovely artwork.

The children have also been learning new songs about autumn, and even used the parachute to help recreate 'falling leaves'.

In the planters, children worked hard planting different bulbs and learnt what a plant needed in order to grow. They will hopefully see the fruits of their labour in early spring!

## Harvest time at local nursery

SINCE opening the Cowbridge branch of St Aubin Nursery, staff and children have been lovingly attending their vegetable and herb garden.

Last week, Harvest time arrived at the nursery and the children gathered up their crops and distributed them to local good causes such as Southway Residential Home in Cowbridge, and the Amelia Trust Farm.

The children handed over vegetables including potatoes, carrots, onions, beetroot, salad leaves and herbs such as mint, parsley, thyme and rosemary.

The rest of the produce will be distributed to families within the community.

Staff at St Aubin would like to thank the hard working team from the Physic Garden, who are managing the land donated to them by the nursery, for their hard work, guidance and inspiration.



The nursery staff and children distribute their harvest produce

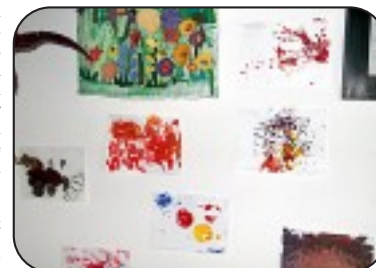
## St Michael's milestone is celebrated in style

FOR ITS 900th anniversary celebrations, St Michael's Church in Colwinston was decorated with beautiful flower arrangements and artwork from the local playgroup and school.

The church's old registers were also put out on view for the occasion.

There was a steady stream of visitors throughout the afternoon, and may took part in the treasure hunt and then had afternoon tea.

There was a celebration dinner in the village hall in the evening, attended by more than 70 adults and 20 children and on Sunday morning the service was 'standing room only'.



The church was decorated with children's artwork to mark its anniversary

The choir performed and lay preacher Penny Snowdon said in her sermon that 'thank you' was the shortest prayer and one that we should use a lot. Many thank-yous were given to all who had taken part in the weekend and the 900 years was truly marked. Competition winners were: flower arrangement, Lyn Edwards; art (playgroup), Dylan G; art (infants) Sam Shepherd; art (juniors) Libby Johns; art (juniors) Sophia and Teegan; treasure hunt, Patrick and Angus.

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# Christmas Party Guide

## The most important office party question – do you take your dancing shoes?

**E**VERYONE is familiar with the pitfalls of planning an office party, but perhaps the most tricky issue is this one – do you opt for a restaurant or pub, or choose

somewhere with a disco?

If ever a decision was designed to sort the exhibitionists from the wallflowers, this is it.

When the meal is finished, and the coffee is getting cold, the DJ lights up his cor-

ner of the room and says: "Hi everyone, are we having a great time?" – and puts on ABBA.

Actually, you could run an office sweep on this, and the person who draws out 'Dancing Queen' will be feeling pretty confident of taking the

money.

I guess its time to declare an interest at this point, as a fully paid up member of the two left feet, no sense of rhythm, section of society.

Members share a sense of dread as they work their way through the courses – because the moment is looming.

You can be pretty certain that most of the female side of the party group will get out there and shake their stuff.

It's not as if they are all good dancers – it's just that they are not hampered by the hang-ups so many blokes have.

So, the next calculation, is how many of your male colleagues will join them?

I find myself hoping that a small

group will do so.

That's enough to give the girls something to dance around, and you are not left alone on the sidelines.

If no men get up to dance, then its just a matter of time before a raiding party from the dance floor swoops down on the cowering innocents and drags them out there – not kicking and screaming, but certainly shaking a bit!

Do I hear someone saying: "Hey, loosen up! It's meant to be a fun night."

That's true, and in fact I've never missed an office party. The truth is, it never has been that traumatic.

It's just that we non-dancers need a little sympathy now and again!

PHILIP IRWIN

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CHRISTMAS PUDDING  
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PROFITEROLES

COFFEE AND MINTS

**£16.00 per person**





# Christmas Party Guide

## BE 'DRINK AWARE' AT PARTY

**CHRISTMAS parties – whether an office do or a social event – are there to be enjoyed, but careful planning can make sure there are no negative consequences after the event!**

The drink awareness charity, Drinkaware ([www.drinkaware.co.uk](http://www.drinkaware.co.uk)) has a number of tips designed to get revellers to drink responsibly and make the most of the office party.

The charity quotes the example of a 36-year-old manager of a computer company. In the past he's dreaded having to organise his firm's annual bash.

He said: "Some of my co-directors have been in business since the 1970s, when all-day drinking was considered the point of any Christmas party."

"They used to order constant rounds and everyone else had to keep up. By about seven o'clock we all felt completely trashed."

After too many hungover telephone calls to restaurants apologising for the previous night's behaviour (and trying to locate lost coats and handbags) Roger decided

ed to ring the changes. He said: "These days I try and make sure that there's plenty of mineral water available on the tables for everyone and that people don't feel pressured to order alcohol."

"Most staff still enjoy a drink, but it does help calm everything down."

**ALCOHOL-FREE OPTIONS**  
The good news is that soft drinks are no longer seen as an unsophisticated option. With upmarket organic lemonade and cola, plus a wide range of alcohol-free cocktails increasingly available, taking a breather from the wine, beer or spirits does not have to be boring.

Alternating alcohol with softer options helps you make the most of the night ahead.

Non-alcoholic drinks keep you hydrated and ensure that you are still partying when others have long since flaked out.

He added: "One of the things I've realised is that pacing yourself is important."

"If you slow down with the wine, you get to enjoy a proper chat with people you might not have really spoken to all year."

**PARTY TIPS**

Eat before the party –

You're on a road to nowhere if you decide to swap dinner for a couple of drinks, as it gives the alcohol a head-start on your system.

To slow down the effects eat a meal (preferably with carbohydrates like pasta or bread) and grab some nibbles once the party starts.

Find out how much is too much – Government guidelines recommend men stick to three to four units of alcohol (that's two pints of beer or four single vodkas) per day, while for women it's two to three units (one 175ml glass of wine or three single vodkas).  
Watch out for over-generous party meas-

ures that mean you end up drinking more than you'd really like.

Plan your journey home – Don't leave yourself vulnerable on the way back from the party.

Either organise a lift from a non-drinking friend, or split a taxi with work colleagues that takes you straight to your door.

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**Turkey Escalope**  
Stuffed with chorizo, sage & onion, wrapped in bacon  
**10 Ounce Poultyruch Farm Sirloin Steak**  
Port & Stilton Jus (£2.50 supplement)  
**Game Pie**  
Port, juniper & shallots

**Fillet of Salmon & Pesto En Crouste**  
Chive cream sauce  
**Risotto**  
Sun-dried tomato, olive, wild mushroom & parmesan  
*All main course served with a selection of seasonal vegetables*  
**Christmas Pudding**  
Brandy sauce & red currants  
**Fresh Lemon Pannacotta**  
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Shortbread biscuit  
**A selection of Cheese's**  
Chutney & crackers

**NEW AUTUMN MENU** Locally sourced produce assured.  
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(December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th and 23rd)  
(Sit down 8pm)  
Prawn Cocktail  
Homemade Chicken Liver Paté and Melba Toast  
Homemade Cream of Vegetable Soup

Roast Crown of Turkey with Stuffing and Pigs in Blankets  
Roast Leg of Welsh Lamb and Mint Sauce  
Grilled Fillet of Salmon with White Wine and Chive Sauce  
Vegetarian Brie and Asparagus Cheesecake

All served with Roasted and New Potatoes, Steamed Carrots and Sprouts

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Followed by Coffee and Mints  
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### Christmas Party Menu

**Monday-Saturday 6.30-9pm**  
Deep fried Brie with conserve  
Prawn cocktail  
Melon with port (or plain melon crown)  
Mushrooms cooked in Garlic Butter  
Farmhouse Paté served with Chutney  
Soup of the day  
Creamy Stilton Mushrooms

Roast Glamorgan Turkey with Chipolata, served with Cranberry & Apricot stuffing  
Rack of Welsh Lamb with Port & Redcurrant Sauce  
Chicken Princess (breast of chicken cooked in a white wine and cheese sauce)  
Grilled Scotch Fillet Steak (6oz), plain or with a choice of Au Poivre Sauce (creamy pepper), Champignon Sauce (rich mushroom) or Diane Sauce (onion, mushroom, wine & tomato)  
Fresh Salmon served with parsley and lemon sauce  
All served with vegetables of the day and potatoes

Choice from the Sweet Trolley

Coffee, Dinner Mint and Mince Pie  
**£28.50 per person**  
Friday & Saturday £28.50 per person  
Monday to Thursday £22.50 per person

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### Christmas Dinner Menu

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**STARTER**  
Gamberoni Al Vino Bianco  
King Prawns cooked in garlic butter, white sauce  
Funghi Con Aglio  
Mushrooms served in garlic white wine sauce  
Chicken Paté  
Chicken paté served with toast and salad  
Zuppa di Vegetali Vegetable soup  
Asparagi & Gamberetti  
Asparagus, peeled prawns, parmesan cheese and cream baked in oven  
Ravioli ai Funghi  
Fresh ravioli cooked with mix of mushrooms, parmesan and cream

**MAIN COURSE**  
Bistecca Pepe Nero  
Sirloin steak grilled, served with black peppers, red wine and cream  
Pesce Spada Swordfish with lemon sauce  
Pollo Prosciutto e Mozzarella  
Chicken breast wrapped in parma ham, cooked in tomato sauce and topped with cheese  
Penne Ortolana  
Garlic, olive oil, courgettes, aubergine, cherry tomatoes and mozzarella  
Risotto Marinara  
Sea food risotto or risotto mushrooms

**DESSERT**  
Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce OR  
Timamisu

**Lunchtime Christmas Menu**  
2 COURSES £8.95  
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Honeydew Melon with Parma Ham served with our own Raspberry Coulis

**MAIN COURSE**  
Roast Glamorgan Turkey with Chestnut Stuffing and Bacon Wrapped Sausage.  
Fresh Fillets of Rainbow Trout accompanied with buttered capers.  
Selection of Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes served with the above main courses.

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# Christmas Party Guide



## The Six Bells, Penmark, sets a high standard with a great dining experience

by TIM CHAPMAN

THE Six Bells Village Pub and Restaurant nestles in the picturesque village of Penmark and under the guidance of the owner James Barnsley aims to provide the best traditional British fare, alongside modern, European dishes.

Built in the 1600s, with many period features, it has been renovated on numerous occasions, and in James's words "is a bit like the house that Jack built".

Its latest facelift in 2008 combined the cosiness of a traditional village pub with a contemporary look for the restaurant. On the chilly evening my wife and I visited the Six Bells, the roaring fires and flickering candles created a welcoming atmosphere.

My wife often chooses fish starters, but on this



ABOVE: The Six Bells provides a warm welcome to Vale diners.

occasion she plumped for the deep-fried brie, which consisted of bread-crumbed brie wedges, accompanied by a salad garnish and cranberry sauce at £4.50.

Cutting into the brie the melted cheese oozed out, and the combination of the flavours with the cranberry sauce was delightful.

Jenny, the waitress, told us that the soup of the day was cauliflower

and stilton and while I tend to enjoy mushroom or prawn starters, I was intrigued.

The soup was a triumph. People are used to the more common combination of broccoli and stilton, but this was a real surprise. Delicious! It was an outstanding dish – one of the best soups I have tasted, and only £3.95!

When my wife saw lamb on the menu, a particular favourite, she said she'd have to go for the roasted Welsh rump of lamb at £12.75.

The course consisted of medallions of lamb which she requested 'medium-rare'; the result was beautifully tender and succulent, sitting on a bed of sautéed potatoes, creamed leeks and a red wine sauce, which made a rich tasting dish that she enjoyed very much. My choice was the

pan-fried duck breast with stir fry vegetables, complemented by a honey, soy and ginger sauce at £11.95. The duck was very tasty and tender, despite the fact that I had requested it 'well done'. My wife accused me of being a Philistine for not ordering it 'medium rare', a judgement that James agreed with later!

A side-order of extra vegetables – all the vegetables on the evening were crisp – ran to an extra £1.95.

For dessert my wife couldn't resist the Bailey's cheesecake, which was served with cream and ice-cream. My wife said it was 'smooth and light' and she would have liked a second helping!

I went for chocolate fudge cake with Chantilly cream, not stodgy, but surprisingly

light, and oozing a moist chocolate sauce. The desserts were both £3.95.

David Williams, the chef, excelled himself and we could understand why the restaurant is well supported by the local community, and why people visit it from far afield.

Another nice aspect of the dining experience was the attentiveness of Jenny the waitress, and James's hospitality – chatting away to diners and ensuring they were happy with the service.

In its favour too, is the fact that the Six Bells will cater for people with allergies and specific dietary requirements as well as offering options for vegetarians.

Our meal cost £25 each, including drinks, which for such a high standard was excellent value for money. We will be paying it another visit very soon.

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Home Cured Beetroot and Dill Salmon with carpaccio of beets, horseradish cream and warm wholemeal bread

**Ballotine of Pembrokeshire Turkey**  
smoked bacon wrapped turkey filled with pancetta, cranberry and roasted chestnuts, with carrot and parsnip purees, rich jus and traditional accompaniments  
**Braised shin of Welsh beef** with baby onions, pearl barley and roasted leek on horseradish mash  
**Roasted Loin of Cod** on fondant potato with a light stock broth, razor clams and Welsh mussels  
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The Red Lion's Matured Christmas Pudding with a creamy brandy sauce and rich brandy butter  
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Available Monday, 21st November until Monday, 9th January

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A creamy homemade vegetable soup served with warm crusty bread

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A coarse pork pate served with a plum compote and warm bread

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Prime chicken goujons served on a bed of savoury rice with a sticky redcurrant and cranberry dressing

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Sunday 30th October  
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Fancy Dress, Party 6pm

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# Vale Mayor hosts Best Kept Village winners



## BKV JOY FOR SCHOOL

LEFT: Pendoylan with photograph album presented by the late Coun Lorna Hughes.



Michaelston-Le-Pit with chief judge Major Dan Clayton-Jones.

RECENTLY, Coun John Clifford, the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, hosted a reception in his parlour for representatives of the winning villages in this year's BKV competition, together with primary and nursery schools.

In welcoming them, he said: "The Best Kept Village competition is an important event in the Vale calendar and it is thanks to the villages and the schools that this competition is so successful. Thank you all for entering. "Your contribution improves the areas in which we live and

enhances our communities. I appreciate that it can be hard work, but the rewards are there for all to see!"

Basil Watkins, the competition chairman, is recovering from a knee operation (hence his seated position in photographs!). In his response, he thanked the Vale Council for its support, together with the other sponsors, Cemex (UK) Ltd, emergency councils and Dyffryn Gardens, together this year with Ffos Las racecourse. Without their sponsorship, used mainly for prize money, the competition could not continue.

He continued: "The children's competition is growing from strength to strength. This year, there was a record number of entries - 24 in total - in two categories: 6-11 years of age and 5 and under."

"The standard was so good, the judges had great difficulty in deciding the winners. They are

a credit to the teachers, parents and volunteers who have helped them."

The winner in the senior category was Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School.

The Mayor presented the two young children, Seren Rees and Nia Wozencroft, with Vale insignia badges, which they are proudly wearing in the photograph (top) with Mrs Lyn Murray, headteacher, and Emma Norton. Second was Ashgrove and third, St Andrews Major.

Cogan Nursery School was first of the up to 5 category, second was Cadoxton Nursery School and third, Eagleswell Primary. Mary Ponting, chief judge for the children's section congratulated everyone and said: "Let's have even more entries next year."

Coun Anthony Ernest, competition vice-chairman, in thanking the Mayor for his time and

## Ystradowen.



# Age Concern marks Older People's Day



ABOVE: Jane Hutt, Gay Fifield and volunteers

THE Friends and Neighbours team at Age Concern's Senior Health Shop, held a coffee morning and raffle at the shop on Holton Road on Saturday, October 1.

Gay Fifield said: "The theme was the celebration of Older People's Day."

Jane Hutt opened the coffee morning and there were a wide range of attractive stalls. The event raised a remarkable figure of £180, all of which will be used towards the Friends and

Neighbours Christmas party in December."

Friends and Neighbours meet at The Senior Health Shop on Holton Road. For further information on the group contact Gay Fifield 01446 400044.

# Nick's memorial talk enthralls audience

## DINAS POWYS WI

OUR October meeting began with a welcome to three visitors, two young and one older, who we hope enjoyed the experience and will return.

The monthly meeting of the book club continues and the September walk proved to be enjoyable, but very muddy, as we walked around the Cwm towards Michaelston-le-Pit.

There were seven brave members plus one small dog, who was less muddy than the walkers at the end.

We enjoyed a craft afternoon with a display of jewellery and took part in a GFWI quiz in Porthcawl, where we did not disgrace ourselves.

Five members attended the Glamorgan Federation half yearly council meeting in Port Talbot on October 5, which was an excellent day out. The main speaker was Toyah Wilcox, who kept us enthralled with a talk about her life and entertained us with one of her hit singles.

On Thursday, October 20, we were walking in Bute Park, a repeat of last year, as we enjoyed the autumn colours. Our speaker for the evening was Nick Thomas, whose subject was 'Memorial Masonry'.

He showed us different styles of lettering for memorials and grave stones, telling us that slate is very much more expensive than marble. Granite is now imported from China and India, and lettering is either hand carved, which is better but can take three days, although it is less liable to error as it is a slower process, or sand blasted.

Nick is involved with the 'Dynamo project' which involves travelling round the country informing youngsters about business opportunities, and he is a member of the Memorial

Awareness Board, which takes care of the safety of cemeteries.

He began carving in 1998 with a love spoon, and from then his enthusiasm for carving was transferred to carving on stone. The writing has to be legible and well written, lettering on stone can last forever, but if leaded will only last for 40 years.

Sometimes, gold leaf is used.

In 2000, health and safety was introduced because old memorials can be dangerous. Eight people have died due to lack of safety in the last 30 years, but subsidence is prevalent in old cemeteries now. Nick was warmly thanked by Jill David, whose father had been a stonemason.

November is our annual meeting, when a new president and committee will be formed. We are asked to bring along an old bra, large or small, and these will be bagged for cash to assist African women with breast cancer. We also hope members will pack a shoe box for a child in need at Christmas.

The competition was an item beginning with the letter 'N' and it was won by Ann Fowler with a photograph of her Norwegian grandchild. Please come and join us on November 1 for our annual meeting at 7.30pm in the Lee Hall, Britway Road. We are aiming to attract young members so that the WI in Dinas Powys will continue to flourish.

# AM takes a 'walk on the blind side'

ELUNED Parrott AM recently took the opportunity to experience what it is like for blind and partially sighted people in Wales during a blindfolded walk in the Senedd.

The regional AM for South Wales Central was attending a reception on behalf of Guide Dogs Cymru when they met guide dog owners, dog trainers and pups and jumped at the change to experience a blindfolded walk with a cane around the Senedd.

Commenting on the experience, she said: "It was a very scary experience. It was amazing how vulnerable I felt, despite knowing I could take the blindfold off. The campaign is fantastic at helping participants understand challenges facing people with impairments."



Eluned Parrott pictured during her blindfolded walk at the Senedd.

# Kids get 'In the Zone'

FREE play sessions for children are being offered in Penarth.

If your child loved having fun on the Vale of Glamorgan Council's free play schemes during the school summer holidays then they will also enjoy the new 'In the Zone' sports and play sessions every Saturday afternoon at Penarth Leisure Centre.

Just like the summer schemes, these new weekly sessions are also free, and involve sports, arts and crafts, messy play and more. The sessions take place

between 2pm and 3.55pm and are for children aged five to 11.

'In the Zone' offers something for all youngsters to have a go at, regardless of any disabilities.

Joanne Jones, Vale Council's play development officer, said: "We are recreating everything that kids love about the summer holidays into two hours of fun every Saturday."

The 'In the Zone' sessions are being provided thanks to funding from a Community Focused Schools grant. For more information contact Joanne Jones on 01446 704809.

# READERS' LETTERS EXTRA COMPETITION WAS A GODSEND!

THANK you so much for the tickets to the Stitches and Hobby Exhibition on Saturday, October 1.

I went to the show with my mum and it was excellent. As a fashion student, it was very worthwhile for my course and as every penny counts as a 'poor student', your competition was a 'Godsend'.

My mum entered my name and it was a thrill to win. I'm sure we will enter many more.

We are avid fans of The GEM.

Rachel Evans

# A few photos still to find

READERS may recall my letter of a few weeks ago regarding the World War Two Memorial in All Saints Church, Barry.

Thank you to all the people who contacted me with information and photographs regarding the men from Barry listed on this memorial.

I am still seeking photographs of the following

I can be contacted on 07708 255295. Dr Jonathan Hicks



# SMITH SHOWS AMBITION BUT LACKS CLARITY IN RELIGIOUS THRILLER

**S**INCE breaking through with 1994's *Clerks*, Kevin Smith has cornered the market in lewd comedy and dialogue that fizzles with popular culture references.

The likes of *Mallrats*, *Chasing Amy* and *Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back* have all shown that Smith can create a hilarious comedy, yet the writer/director has loftier ambitions.

While critically unloved and commercially dismissed, both *Dogma* and *Jersey Girl* showed Smith had more in his arsenal than jokes about getting high and the travails of the common (Jersey) man. So having bade farewell to his gaggle of characters with *Clerks 2*, Smith's latest film sees him take a different tack altogether.

*Red State* tells the story of three teenagers (Michael Angarano,

Nicolas Braun and Kyle Gallner) who, on the promise of a carnal encounter, show up to a secluded trailer; but they're drugged and wake up on the compound of hate-spewing fundamentalist preacher Abin Cooper (Michael Parks).

With their lives at risk, the trio must try to escape their captors, a task made all the more difficult when the authorities show up outside, led by Joseph Keenan (John Goodman), who have their own plans to deal with Cooper and his followers...

If there is one thing that Kevin Smith has never been afraid of doing, it's expressing an opinion. Whether through the medium of his own films, or via his extensive Q&A tours or articles, Smith is a voice in cinema that makes itself heard.

So a film that appears, on the surface, to debunk extreme religious believers - is

## SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

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Smith playing to the gallery and attempting to provoke debate? Which is all well and good, as long as you are saying something in the first instance; however, for once Smith hasn't been able to fashion any bite. *Red State*, while both an interesting addition to his cannon and a noble attempt to show his ability as a filmmaker, feels flat and lacking.

While Smith toyed with religion before in *Dogma*, here he is dealing with an ultra-conservative branch of religion that appears to be the preserve of middle American states, and he isn't afraid to show how their own brand of belief can veer towards the extreme.

In fact, the opening plays like a modern horror, as young, dumb,

over-sexed teenagers are set to be punished for their proclivities; yet while Smith has claimed this is his first horror film, it is more a psychological thriller; Smith more concerned with the motivations behind the behaviour rather than revelling in blood-soaked set-pieces.

While the traditional, snappy dialogue that you would expect is present and correct, there certainly appears to be an attempt by Smith to deepen things, with the characters on both sides of the divide being given ample opportunity to espouse their belief systems and the effect they have on the situation.

The film affords us an opportunity to look at the world through the eyes of the religious group (most notably in an electrifying diatribe from Michael Parkes early in the film), with Smith painting the authorities who move in on them as perhaps just as bloodthirsty and guilty of disregarding people's rights - a theme that comes up more than once, that we're all under the same umbrella, despite (or in spite perhaps) of our opinions.

But Smith doesn't explore the themes in as much depth as you would hope, instead allowing the film to degenerate into an admittedly well-executed hostage drama that sees characters offed with almost casual zeal, and downplaying the more interesting elements of the film, leaving you a little lost as to the point that he is trying to make.

He does draw some strong performances, chief among them being Michael Parkes' chilling zealot, a God-fearing gun-nut with an itchy trigger finger; it's a turn from the actor that delivers chills through its realism, while John Goodman, as the agent in charge of the hostage situation, attempts to show grace under pressure as he is put in a moral conundrum by the desire to do right against the wishes of his superiors.

Throw in some well-tuned, but slight, turns from the likes of Angarano, Gallner, Melissa Leo and Kerry Bishe, and the film doesn't trip up on the quality of its acting - instead it falls down on Smith's inability to nail the tone and what exactly he is trying to say.

While the writer/director should be applauded for broadening his horizons, both in terms of his direction and the subject matter he is covering, it needs something sharper and more well-tuned to really hit home; as it stands, *Red State* is well intentioned and interesting piece of work, but no more than that.

**VERDICT:** An uneven film that is well intentioned, if a touch mishandled in execution, *Red State* sees Kevin Smith transfer out of his comfort zone with mixed results. While he draws strong performances, and an air of menace from a group of religious fundamentalists with an extreme belief system, Smith's message feels undercooked and lacking, leaving the film to flounder somewhat. Average.

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *Hostel* (2005), *Rosemary's Baby* (1968).



The Women's Christian Fellowship Choir

## Choir comes full circle to perform in Vale

**THE Women's Christian Fellowship Choir from Lusaka, Zambia, has been touring Wales for the past two weeks and their visit will end this week where it started - in the Vale.**

The choir has given stunning performances in many venues including Cyncoed Methodist Church; St John's, Llandudno; the Mansion House of the Lord Mayor of Cardiff; and in the debating chamber of the Senedd.

Schools and churches in the Vale have been thrilled by their joyful singing and dancing - St Curig and Gladstone schools both enjoyed morning assemblies where the choir

brought the house down and received standing ovations.

When taking a break from singing, the choir has also visited many tourist attractions around the Vale, enjoyed time with their host families - and even been guests on the Roy Noble show.

The final concert of the 30 ladies from St Matthew's Church will be in Crossway Methodist Church today (Thursday, October 13) at 7.30pm.

A church spokesperson said: "Come early if you want a seat. We are confident in predicting a packed house and those who do make their way to Crossway are going to enjoy an unforgettable evening."

Entry is free with a collection going towards transport costs within Wales.

## Step back in time to the Fab Forties

**IT'S TIME to bring out the bunting as a Penarth hall is set to go back to the '40s later this month.**

The Paget Rooms in the town will step back to the 1940s on Saturday, October 29, as teenagers from the CAVMS Youth Jazz Orchestra provide the big band sound at the *Back to Forty 2* charity dance.

Built in 1906, the venue will become a time warp - decked out in bunting, flags and period morale-raising posters. Along with the sounds of the era, living historians will be dressed in 1940s clothing, with guests being encouraged to also wear 1940s dress.

Swing dancers and 1940s enthusiasts will be able to dance the night away to the sounds of Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington and Count Basie, performed live by the youth jazz orchestra, supported by Penarth-based specialist vintage DJ Dipsy Doodle.

The Cardiff-based youth orchestra provides an opportunity for students to learn to play jazz and big band music.

Band leader Dave Miller said: "The *Back to Forty 2* dance will provide the students with a great opportunity to experience what it was like to play at one of the dances during the heyday of big band entertainment.

"It will also help with their history; knowing

that along with the dancers and period re-enactors, they will be recreating one of the dances that took place in this hall all those years ago."

Dance organiser, Ade Pitman said: "Along with raising funds for the charities British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association and Combat Stress, our dance aims to raise an awareness of our local history too.

The dance will be a mix of dance enthusiasts and 1940s re-enactors, so it really will feel like you have stepped back in time.

"Dances like this were hugely popular during the Second World War. They helped to raise morale and smooth relations between the local population and the Americans. Local girls met American GIs at these dances, and around 700 of them became GI brides and moved to the States after the war.

"Our *Back to the Forties* dance last year raised over £900 for Help for Heroes, and we hope to beat this total this year."

Tickets are £10 in advance, £12 on the door and are available from Ade Pitman, on 07930 874161. Tickets can also be collected from Ade at the dance class held at the Paget Rooms on Monday evenings, 7.30pm - 8.30pm. The *Barry at War* website is at [www.barryatwar.info](http://www.barryatwar.info).

## Tribute concert for Neil Lewis

**BARRY'S best bands are lining up to pay a special musical tribute to one of the town's most famous musicians.**

Top local names, including The Underdogs, Ska Face, Pure Cult, Session and Freeway, will play the third Neil Lewis Memorial Concert at Barry Island Sports and Social Club on Friday, October 21.

Respected artist Neil, who passed away in 2009, played for many years with Max Boyce, even enjoying a minor hit with a tongue-in-cheek tribute to the band's road crew called 'Packer of the Leads'.

He also supported Fairport Convention, Tom Paxton and Billy Connolly - and lived and played in both Canada and Bermuda before settling back in his native Barry.

Son Rhys, who organises the yearly event for local music-lovers to get together and remember the man himself, said: "There is a top line-up for this year's concert and although the running order has yet to be confirmed, it promises to showcase much of the Barry music scene's hottest talent."

Tickets (£7.50) are available From The Windsor Hotel on Holton Road, Barry Island Social Club, or by calling 07595 497255. A Neil Lewis Memorial Concert 2011 event page has been set up on Facebook and you can also visit [www.neillewis.com](http://www.neillewis.com).

All profits this year will go to Karen's Cause, which has been set up by Barry woman Karen Holroyd, to raise funds for specialist 'cyber-knife' treatment to be made easily available for cancer patients in Wales.

## Penarth Computer Club: Remembering Steve Jobs

**IT CANNOT have escaped your notice that Steve Jobs of Apple computer fame has died, aged 56.**

He was a founder of Apple computers, made a fortune and was ousted by someone he recruited. He went off and made a bigger fortune elsewhere, then sold his new company to his old company and returned to run the old one again!

Back in charge, he brought to market products that have been extraordinarily successful: the iPod, iPhone and iPad. Each product has been developed and updated and has taken the market by storm.

His obituaries are longer than usual, trying to do justice to his story. Even so, you need several of them to get a rounded picture of the man.

You mostly get an impression of a tyrannical boss who insisted on his high standards, whether they related to the quality of the design of the device; the elegant simplicity of its operation; the quality of its construction or secrecy about the products before launch.

Some point out that when he returned to Apple he stopped all philanthropic giving by the company. Employees could be "bawled out" and lauded almost in the same breath. He was generally difficult to work with.

So why was he so successful? He had a gift for knowing what the customer wanted. That sounds as though it is easy - you simply ask the customers. It doesn't quite work like that.

Customers often don't know what they want.

Steve Jobs had the priceless gift of seeing what they would want if they could imagine it was possible to have it.

He had the authority and character to insist on unusually good 'feel' to the products when in use - the very essence of good design. He was adamant that controls would be minimal, intuitive and effective. He didn't suffer any stultifying bureaucracy and

could be ruthless in his ambition.

Naturally, he got less opposition after his early successes proved him right. The company thrived and this year, briefly, it was the most valuable company on the planet.

It was Jobs' presence that pushed the development of personal music players, mobile communications and tablet computing. More should yet come from his work in progress. When that is exhausted, will there be someone else able to drive the rapid progress the world now takes for granted?

Penarth Computer Club doesn't deal with Apple computers. Apple uses its own operating system and (until fairly recently) would generally not work with Microsoft software that most people use. Apple computers are often regarded as better, but they are more expensive as well.

This snippet cannot possibly deal with the complexities of Steve Jobs. Browse the web to read more about his fascinating life, or wait for the inevitable biographical film!

We next meet on Tuesday, October 25. Kevin will review the need, principles, and latest thinking on backing up data. Visitors welcome. Visit [penarthcomputerclub.co.uk](http://penarthcomputerclub.co.uk).

Howard Desmond, chairman

## Ty Hafan lottery

**The following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D691.**

● £2,000: 462383.  
● The rollover, which now stands at £1,000, was not won this week.  
● £10: 5 1 5 8 1 8 . 430870, 818922, 898090, 618391, 816918, 311552, 345509, 526243, 849538, 587602, 653424, 865062, 911634, 480086, 424791, 104028, 503919, 808185, 544664.  
● £5: 460878, 353886, 204105, 239624, 776464, 663556, 580833, 747375, 199622, 472533, 190915, 754790, 239105,

401469, 403795, 111708, 395146, 644239, 498686, 547407, 220605, 412115, 360357, 503688, 981669, 172046, 639216, 461009, 755217, 823384, 888778, 608885, 890062, 797890, 536533, 212695, 709266, 526911, 257409, 747285, 439523, 775404, 770592, 266897, 431428, 515350, 390175, 523785, 517400, 391252, 310252, 634510, 733750, 393779, 318892, 871217, 651260, 702069, 167036, 755011, 615878.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.



# Out and About with The GEM

## Celebrity chef set to stir things up at food festival

**RENOWNED food writer, journalist and broadcaster Elisabeth Luard will give a demonstration at this year's biggest ever Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival.**

The festival is on Saturday and Sunday, October 29 and 30.

Elisabeth, 69, settled in Ystrad Meurig, Ceredigion, after years of travelling around the world with her family. As a child she spent her time in the kitchen in Montevideo in Uruguay where she would help the family's cook prepare meals.

Elisabeth said: "I noticed that the food the cook prepared for the dining room was a lot less interesting than what was prepared for the servants. They had

lots of delicious stuffed vegetables and neat little croquettes, which I was allowed to help to roll, slow-cooked stews with beans or lentils finished off with olive oil and big handfuls of shredded greens."

Elisabeth went on to have a family of her own, who she brought up in Andalusia, which inspired her 1991 book *The Cooking of Andalusia* and won her the Guild of Food Writers' Book of the Year Award. The family then spent a year in the Languedoc before returning to Britain.

Since her first book *European Peasant Cookery* in 1986, Elisabeth has gone on to write numerous books, both biographical as well as foodie titles, and regularly writes columns for the *Daily Mail*. She has also starred in her

own television series on BBC 2, *The Rich Tradition*.

Although Elisabeth loves Mediterranean flavourings and olive oil, her latest book, *A Cook's Year in a Welsh Farmhouse*, released in May, is a reflection on her time spent closer to home and will form the basis of her demonstrations at the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival. Elisabeth will be sourcing all of her own ingredients from exhibitors at the festival and showing visitors how to cook with local produce.

Elisabeth said: "Coming to cook at the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival will be a real treat for me as this is the best time of year for local ingredients."

"There's sure to be plenty of good things to work with and I intend to cook what I find,

which is how I like to decide what's for dinner. I sometimes describe my culinary style as reaction-cooking; first you look at what's there and then you make it taste good."

"Wales has fabulous ingredients - great lamb and beef, beautiful butter and cheese, wild-gathered fungi and fruits, fantastic home-grown vegetables."

The Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival, which last year won the award for the Best Community Event at the National Tourism Awards, is in its eighth year and attracts more than 20,000 visitors.

John Davies, chairman of the festival said: "We're really excited to have Elisabeth join us this year. She has such a following among the food community and we're sure that both



**Elisabeth Luard**

first-time visitors as well as regular festival-goers will thoroughly enjoy her demonstration."

Elisabeth will be demonstrating on Saturday, October 29, and will also be available to sign books after the demo or 2pm-2.30pm in the main exhibition marquee at Graffeg's stall, where you can buy a copy.

## Setch exhibition is a 'highlight of the year'

**AN EXHIBITION of work by internationally-renowned artist Terry Setch has gone on display at the Art Central gallery in Barry.**

An invite-only preview took place on Monday, and was followed by the main opening to the public on Tuesday, October 11.

The exhibition will be open until November 12, and admission is free.

The distinguished Penarth-based artist is a member of the Royal Academy of Arts and the Royal West of England Academy. He creates works that are inspired by his local environment in South Wales, and uses mixed media and found materials to produce a distinctive style.

Since the early 1970s, a key source for his ideas has been the beach close to where he lives in Penarth.

Tracey Harding, arts development officer at Vale of Glamorgan Council, said: "Terry Setch is one of Wales' most important artists with a long career that has seen him participate in UK exhibitions every year since 1956. It is a real privilege for Art Central to host this exhibition and definitely one



**Terry Setch with his piece Time in Running Out. PHOTO BY HANNAH SINCLAIR**

of our highlights for 2011."

Setch has had more than 36 solo exhibitions, including a UK touring retrospective, and has been exhibited across Europe, America and Australia. His contribution to the art world has been rewarded with numerous prizes including a Welsh Arts Council Major Artist Award and recently the Bryan Robertson Trust Award.

His work is also represented in a number of major public collections including the Tate, Victoria and Albert Museum and the National Museum and Galleries of Wales. His commissions have included a mural for the National Museum of Wales. The gallery is open Tuesdays to Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

## WHAT'S ON IN YOUR AREA

### Friends' meeting

**BARRY** and Vale Friends of the Earth will next meet on October 11 at 7.30pm in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry. **Folk dance for Eisteddfod**

A TWMPATH (folk dancing) will be held in the Old School Hall in Sully on October 15, 7pm til late.

Tickets are £5 adults, £3 under-18s, to raise money towards the

National Eisteddfod in the Vale 2012. There will be a bar available.

### Valeways walks

'WAR bunker walk', starting at the visitor centre, Cosmeston Country Park, 2pm, Sunday October 16 - contact 07971 695780.

Sully coast and village, starting outside Sully Church, Sully, at 1.30pm on Tuesday, October 25 - contact 07889 522321.

Join the Coffee Shop Strollers for an easy walk in good company;

Wednesdays, October 19, November 2, 16 and 30. Meet at 1.45pm outside Tourist Information Office, Barry Island.

**Legion's AGM** THE next meeting of the Barry branch of the Royal British Legion will be held on October 17 at 2.30pm in the Mayor's Parlour at Barry Memorial Hall. This will also incorporate the annual general meeting.

### Red Cross fabric sale

THE COWBRIDGE Red Cross Group is having a mini fabric sale on Thursday, October 20, at the group's Broadshoard Centre (10.30am - 12.30pm).

Assorted lengths, remnants, embroidery items, wool, buttons, etc will be available. It will also be open the day before for donations (same time) or phone 01446 773987 for assistance. Free entry.

### Tax advice on offer

THE next income tax surgery to offer free professional help and advice to those with income tax queries, is to be held at the Age Concern offices, Holton Road, Barry, on Monday, October 31 from 9.30am-12 noon.

### Charity coffee

THERE will be a charity coffee morning for Parkinsons UK at All Saints Lesser Hall,

**Victoria Square, Penarth, on Thursday, October 20 at 10.30am-12 noon.**

Entry (£1) includes coffee/tea and Welsh cakes. All enquiries to 02920 711657.

### Autumn fayre in Penarth

ON Saturday, October 22, there will be an autumn fayre in the Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth, 10am-12 noon.

There will be an excellent number of stalls, with homemade cakes and preserves, plants, books and many other items.

Admission (50p) includes refreshments. All proceeds to the Children's Society.

## Live music

THERE will be live music from *Eject, Pilot Eject!* At Gordon Bennetts, Barry, on Thursday, October 20 from 8.30pm.

Entry is free.

## Event will rock!

BEING held on Saturday, October 22, and Sunday, October 23, at the National Museum Wales, Cardiff is Geofest, a festival of geology.

From 10am to 4pm each day, the museum will be alive with hands-on geological activities, displays and stalls.

As well as displays of rocks, minerals and fossils, there will be workshop activities for children,

adults, talks, sales of books and minerals, behind-the-scenes tours of the museum's geological department and more. And it's all free!

On Saturday, October 22, there are also two special free talks in the museum's Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre: 11am, "Archaeopteryx: Celebrating 150 years", by Dr John Nudds of Manchester University; 2.30pm "The biggest pterosaurs in Britain" by Dr Dave Martill of Portsmouth University.

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# JUMPING FOR JOY AT TRIALS SUCCESS!

THE Glamorgan Hunter Trials were held at the Alps, Wenvoe, on October 2 in glorious weather.

There were record entries in seven classes with jumps and hazards of all sizes and difficulty, ranging from minimus to the open, which offered very good sponsored prize money.

The event is now well known, and attracted competitors from England and all over south and west Wales.

Photographs by  
**HEATHER MARCH**



*Sian Cothi took time off broadcasting to tackle the course.*



*Lisa Lidsey from St Mary Church had a very good day, winning the intermediate on Indie and being placed second on the open on Big Al.*



*Mark Edwards of Llandow won the open riding Kilipan Lassie.*



*Russel Pritchard from Ewenny in the Open.*



## Good win for Codeworks netball

**CODEWORKS** Westend Netball Club's second team took on Heath Angels E at Sofia Gardens, thrashing them by 39 goals to 13.

Each quarter was pretty much the same, with Westend staying on top and playing an impressive all-round game of netball.

The defensive players

Lisa Holland, Siobhan Griffiths and Hayley Greening had some lovely interceptions, taking the ball back down the centre court by Chantelle Meah, Claire Dutton and Abi Ladner and eventually into the circle with some outstanding goals scored by Emma Hughes and Nina Jones.

Chantelle Meah was named player of the match by the opposing team.

KK

## Evan lands Limerick big race

**ON AND OFF  
THE TURF  
with Brian  
Lee**

**WEST With The Wind**, a six-year-old bay gelding owned by Janet Davies and trained by Llanrcarfan's Evan Williams, made every post a winning one when landing the Price Waterhouse Coopers Chase at Limerick in Ireland last Sunday under stable jockey Paul Moloney.

*West With The Wind*, who has won seven of his last 10 races, beat the 1-2 odds-on favourite *Loosen My Load* by five and a half lengths and his delighted trainer said: "I really didn't think he could win on that ground and Paul said that he was hating it, but it's great to come here and win a nice prize, given how bad things are with regard to prize money at home. He has not won the money he's deserved."

*West With The Wind* was returned a 3-1 chance and also delighted with the horse's performance was assistant trainer James Tudor who watched the race on television in the owners and trainers' bar at Ffos Las Racecourse alongside Evan's mother, Mary Williams, who was also understandably overjoyed with her son's success.

Meanwhile, Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, who saddled his 50th winner of the season at Ludlow on Thursday, celebrated by landing a double at Newton Abbot on Friday with *George Woolf* and *Jimbill*. Both were ridden by Richard Johnson and the former won the Juvenile Hurdle, beating the odds-on *Captain Sharpe* by a length and the latter, who was made an odds-on favourite, took the Open National Hunt Flat race by eight lengths from *Barrison*.

Evan Williams took the opening Novices Hurdle with *Timesawastin* who had two lengths to spare over *Briefcase*. *Timesawastin*, an odds-on favourite, was partnered by top Irish jockey Ruby Walsh.

You can email your news or views to Brian Lee at [lee@brianlee.net](mailto:lee@brianlee.net) or phone him on 029 273 6438.

## Pony club has successful day of competition

**THE Glamorgan Pony Club held its futuristic hunter trials on Sunday, September 25, at Spring Meadows, Llandow, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Edwards and family.**

The day started off a little bit damp but soon warmed up as things got going, with more than 100 competitors. After a popular 'have a go round' it started with the first class, 'lead rein', which was sponsored by Herbert R Thomas. Results were as follows: First, Branwen Clay on *Bonnie*; second, Erin Bartle on *Splash*; third, Beth Crockford on *Misty*.

Class 2, the minimus, was sponsored by Beech & Co. First, Grace Gardner on *Star*; second, Ashley Furness on *Danny Boy*; third, Martha Matthews on *Sparrow*; fourth, Charlotte Tudor on *Beauty*; fifth, James Davies on *Rupert*; sixth, Josie Dix on *Smartie*.

Class 2 was the novice pairs, sponsored by Phillip Shaw. First, Stephanie Brownbill on *Mouse* and Mali Howell on *Goldie*; second, Josie Dix on *Smartie* and Adam Dix on *Toffee*; third, Tatum Bolt on *Sweet Pea* and Harry Bolt on *Toby*; fourth, Maisie Beech on *Tabby* and Nina Revera on *Smokey*; fifth, Charlotte Tudor on *Beauty* and Debbie Tudor on *Strider*; sixth, Izzy

Kennedy on *Lucy* and Aaron Fairgray on *Jay*.

The biggest class of the day was Class 4, the open novice sponsored by Arthur John & Co. First, Izzy Kennedy on *Lucy*; second, Mali Howell on *Goldie*; third, Amelia James on *Woody*; fourth, Maisie Beech on *Tabby*; fifth, Alison Gibbon on *Ruby*; sixth, Jo Davies on *Roo*.

Class 5, the open intermediate, was sponsored by NFU. First, Izzy Kennedy on *Lucy*; second, Zoe Hughes on *Fred*; third, Emma Gully on *Kuros*; fourth, Stephanie Brownbill on *Mouse*; fifth, Ellie Dix on *Moss*; sixth, Evie Vaughn-Jones on *Playa*.

Class 6 was the intermediate pairs, sponsored by Evan Williams Racing. First, Genevieve Kirk on *Ringo* and Evie Vaughn-Jones on *Playa*; second, Bethan Allman on *Christo* and Josh Rees on *All About Me*; third, Zoe Hughes on *Fred* and Ellie Dix on *Moss*; fourth, Aaron Fairgray on *Jay* and Sophia Harpin on *Fancy Nancy*; fifth, Sam Tudor on *Strider* and Ellie Thorne on *Kelly*; sixth, Maisie Beech on *Tabby* and Nina Revera on *Smokey*.

The final class was Class 7, the open, sponsored by Park Veterinary Group. First, Emma Gully on *Kuros*; second, Ellie Dix on *Moss*; third, Zoe Hughes on *Fred*; fourth, Bethan Allman on *Christo*; fifth, Evie Vaughn-Jones on

*Playa*; sixth, Jo Thorne on *Mani*.

Glamorgan Pony Club would like to thank all the class and fence sponsors, Adam Jones Antique Furniture, Ashdown Stables, Browns the Printer, Cowbridge Cycle Centre, Dyffryn Mawr Cottages, Forza Cycles, Natwest Bank Cowbridge, Pritchards Saddlery, Pwllyrach Farm, Colwinston and Treoes Racing Club.

A big thank you to everyone who helped on the day.

All cash raised will go towards further training and equipment for members.

Anyone interested in joining the pony club are welcome on Wednesday evenings at Spring Meadow, Llandow from 5.30pm to 9.15pm.

All ages and abilities are catered for, from lead rein upwards.

JJ

## Cottrell ladies' joy!

**COTTRELL Park Ladies' first team has won Division One of the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Ladies' Golf League for the first time.**

Helen Little, team captain, said: "It is an amazing achievement, I can hardly believe it. I'm so proud of the team."

The Glamorgan and Monmouthshire League currently consists of 104 teams playing in 10 divisions. Cottrell Park first entered the league in 1999 and, as with all newly-entered teams, was in the lowest division.

The team won promotion in its first year and continued to climb the divisions every year (except one) reaching Division One in 2010.

Over the past 12 years, the make-up of the team has inevitably changed, but one member has remained constant. Sandra Collin has played in the first team every year since it was formed and for four of those years she was team captain.

The members of Cottrell Park Golf Club, and especially the ladies who played in the victorious team, are justly proud and excited.

Cottrell Park Ladies' first team: Gemma Bradbury, Katie Bradbury, Helen Poole, Helen Little (captain), Sandra Collin, Kay Bradbury, Jacki Boyes, Vicki Long and Rebecca Roberts.

GW

## Under-9s' close match against the Sports

**COWBRIDGE under-9s welcomed Bridgend Sports, who opened the scoring after an excellent opening period of play from both teams.**

The game was tight, with Aled equalising for Cowbridge soon after. The remainder of the game saw Cowbridge still unable to play an expansive passing game of rugby, finding it difficult to penetrate the Bridgend defence.

Bridgend crossed for a further two tries before the interval, leaving Cowbridge trailing by three tries to one.

As the teams swapped over during the interval, the Cowbridge defence improved, with Jay completing a good deal of his 27 tackles during the game in this period.

Rhys crossed for two tries, with the team now playing a much wider game of rugby and moving the ball well.

Bridgend also scored in this period, bringing the game back to a single try margin at 4-3.

The final period of play saw a number of team changes for Cowbridge, and it also resulted in leaking another three tries after some excellent attacking rugby by Bridgend. This was balanced in part by further efforts from Jay and Rhys for Cowbridge with the final score being 5-7.

Tries: Aled Leitch, Rhys Williams (two), Jay Downes, Rhys Williams.

Squad: Ioan Davies, David Harris, Harri Howkins, Oliver Jarman, Aled Leitch, Charlie Locke, Jack Riley, Harry Whittaker, Dewi Williams, Jake Williams, Iwan-Thomas Bartle, Sam Coates, Jay Downes, James Gilvear, Matthew Gilvear, Robbie Hawkins, Ellis Howell, Tom Johnson, McKinley Parsons, Tom Pugh and Rhys Williams.



# Swimming gala is a great success



ABOVE: Keith Rogers presenting the cup and shield to Georgia and Rhys with Rhiannon

## BARRY Amateur Swimming Club held the fifth annual Lez Rogers Memorial Gala on Saturday, September 17, at Barry Leisure Centre.

This event is held in memory of Lez Rogers, who died in Australia in June 2006 attending a Tenpin bowling competition representing Wales.

Lez did so much for the club so his wife, Kay, who still coaches for the club and daughter Carrienne, wanted to do something in his memory.

Barry ASC welcomed Brenda and Keith Rogers, Lez's mum and dad, and also Auntie Ceri and cousin Rhiannon to watch the gala.

Barry welcomed Blaenafon and Rhondda to the event and starting the event off was the 10 and under 4 x 25m medley mixed relay.

Barry put in a very good effort and came second in a very tight finish in a time of 1m.35s.81, which was one hundredth of a second behind Rhondda.

To start our run of first places, the open age group came first in the 4 x 50m mixed medley relay in a time of 02m.15s.31, over 15 seconds ahead of the other teams.

Luke Birnage in the 10 and under 50m breast stroke, took first place in a time of 48s.96, which was an improvement on his previous time for this event.

Swimming in the 13 and 14-year-old girls' 50m back stroke, Olivia Insole gained first place in a time of 41s.00.

Kate Lewis gained a first place in the 50m front crawl girls' open age group in a time of 33s.12.

Not to be outdone, Simon Perry in the boys open age group came first, in a fantastic time

of 28s.62.

In the 10 and under mixed relay 4 x 25m butterfly, the team came first in a time of 1m.36s.37, while the 14 and under mixed relay team, swimming 4 x 50m, came first in a time of 2m.37s.06 and also the open age group in a time of 2m.13s.96.

Declan Ewington in the 10 and under 50m back stroke in a very strong finish (over 13 seconds ahead of Blaenafon) took first place in a time of 42s.00.

Bethan Williams swimming in the girls' 11 and 12-year-old 50m breaststroke, took first place in a time of 44s.87, which was more than three seconds faster than her previous personal best.

Swimming in the girls' 13 and 14-year-old age group, Georgia Looker swam the 50m front crawl in a time of 32s.96 to gain first place.

Rhys Perry came first in the boys' open age group in the 50m butterfly, in a time of 29s.87.

In a clean sweep of the 4 x 25m and 4 x 50m mixed back stroke relays, Barry gained first place in all four age groups with very good times for all of the age groups.

Having recently moved from Tenby and swimming a gala for the first time for the club, Lewy Blanc took first place in the boys' 50m 10 and under butterfly in a time of 56s.94, which was four seconds ahead of Rhondda.

For the open girls' 50m backstroke, Alana Wilson took first place in a time of 37s.03.

Barry took first place in all four of the 4 x 25m and 4 x 50m breaststroke relays with the open age group doing extremely well winning their race by over 15 seconds.

In the 10 and under boys' 50m front crawl, Jacob Davies, who has not been with the club

long, did very well and came first in a time of 39s.81.

Grace Insole, swimming in the girls' 11 and 12-year-old age group 50m back stroke, swam in a time of 39s.84 to take first place yet again for Barry with a nearly one second improvement on her previous time for this distance.

With a three-second lead, Georgia Looker took first place in the girls' 13 and 14-year-old age group 50m butterfly event in a time of 33s.37 followed on by Ryan Connor in the boys race, again coming first in a time of 38s.03.

Ryan swam a fantastic race and improved his previous time by more than 24 seconds.

Danielle Davis swam in the girls' open 50m breast stroke event and took first place in a time of 41s.06, which was a personal best and improved on her time by more than one second.

Swimming in the final individual event, Rhys Perry took first place in the boys' open age group in the 50m breast stroke in a time of 34s.3; this was also a personal best for him.

To finish up a fantastic gala, Barry took first place in the final event, the open age group 50m front crawl relay in a time of 2m.01s.68, which was more than five seconds ahead of Blaenafon.

Everyone said that they had a fantastic gala and waited eagerly for the final results. After 52 events, Barry ASC came first with 273 points followed by Blaenafon with 250 points, and Rhondda with 207 points.

Mr Keith Rogers presented Georgia Looker, vice club captain, and Rhys Perry, club captain, with the shield donated for the event by Kay and Carrienne Rogers.

Swimmers of the meet went to Shaun Bowden and Ryan



Keith Rogers with all of the swimmers

Connor for the fantastic effort they put in, and swimming above their age group.

For the girls, it went to Llinos Goodland for her support and show of team spirit.

A big thank you must go to all the officials and helpers during the event as without their help we would not be able to run the event or many of the other events the club holds.

Barry Amateur Swimming Club is always looking for new members to join the club so if you would like a trial, please phone Mrs Heulwen Cooper on 01446 733784.

We swim at Barry Leisure Centre and Cardiff International Pool.

WT



Coach Mike Looker with Llinos, Shaun and Ryan

## BARRY RFC ROUND-UP

# Llandaff put seconds to the sword as thirds come close

## BARRY Second XV were well beaten in this tough away cup-tie against Llandaff RFC.

With once again numerous injuries to deal with only three replacements were named, and the threadbare side was no match for a well-drilled first XV from Llandaff.

Adam Lee scored the only points for the visitors with a well-struck penalty.

Team: Hewitson, M Jones, O Poole, Parker, Betts, Thorne, Lee, Lundy, Hosking, Houldey, Haigh, Rendall, L Jones, Case, Rolfe; Subs used: Summerhayes, Thomas.

## Llanishen Third XV 41, Barrians 36

THE Barrians finally got their season under way with a friendly away fixture against Llanishen.

With the number of players unavailable to the club as a whole, it was a minor miracle that this fixture took place at all. The Barrians travelled to their hosts with no substitutes, no kicking tee, players out of position but yet plenty of spirit. Player-manager Ken Chow handed debuts to seven players,

with only three of the XV actually having played this season.

Any doubts as to whether the Barrians had the appetite for the game were extinguished two minutes after kick-off, however, as Chow himself collected a fine pass to dive in the corner for the first score.

The recalled Chris Chucas, normally a back-row forward, operated at outside-half for the day, and he mixed his game with some intelligent kicking, solid running and crunching tackles.

The forwards, led by last season's player-of-the-season Andy Moffat, were giving the makeshift fly-half the platform to showcase his talent, and he soon added another score himself, powering through under the posts.

Llanishen responded with a try of their own after creating an overlap, but Barry responded by keeping the scoreboard ticking over.

The hard graft of the back-row forwards once again created scoring opportunities, and before halftime Chucas had scored a brace, while No.8 Jones and Awaient also got on the scoresheet.

Awaient's try, in particular, was one to remember as he sprinted the length of the pitch to ground between the posts.

With no replacements on the bench and most players lacking in match fitness, the Barrians noticeably wilted in the second half, as their hosts brought on a hoard of fresh legs.

The Barrians continued to battle but saw their advantage disappear in the second half, despite some spirited defensive work; Awaient, Davies, Moffat and Jones deserved particular credit.

Chucas completed his hat-trick, and his performance on the day was all the more

remarkable as he converted three out of the six tries by drop-kicking.

Ultimately however, it was not enough, despite Awaient having a last-ditch attempt to scramble to the line, but his efforts were denied by the referee's whistle.

The management would like to thank all the players who turned up on the day to kick start the Barrians' season.

Team: Boffy, Chow (c), Awaient, Davies, King, Tovey, Chucas, Rendall, Dyer, Foulkes, Moffat, Hall, Harding, Williams, Jones.

Men of the match: Chucas and Moffat.

KC

## Vale coach nominated

THE coaches aiming to lift the prestigious Welsh national coach of the year titles for 2011 have now been revealed.

After sifting through a record number of entries, a panel of judges – which included representatives of governing bodies, young people, sports coach UK, disability sport and Sport Wales – have managed to whittle down the nominations and select their favourites.

Among this year's nominated finalists is Anthony Hughes from the Vale of Glamorgan. He has been recognised in the 'Coach of the Year to Disabled Sportspeople' section.



## COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

# Girls make good start to cross-country season

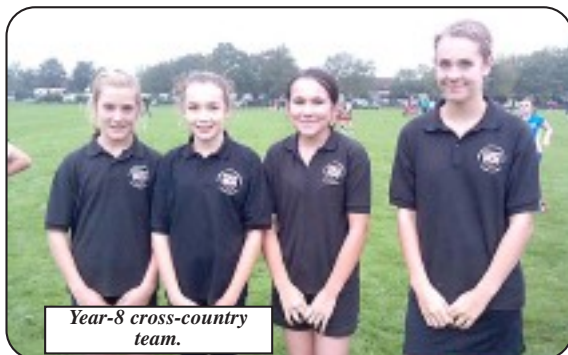
## CROSS-COUNTRY

THE girls entered their second league cross-country run on Tuesday, October 4 and, despite being slightly wet under foot, the weather conditions were hugely improved from the driving rain in the last race.

The year 8 and 9 team raced first and put in a strong performance. Seren Allin (year-8) took the lead from the start and continued to forge ahead. The following girls finished quickly behind: Nadine James 9th, Ela Emyr 14th, Rebecca Thomas 20th, Cerys Bradshaw 30th, Alice Tudor 32nd, Millie Green 35th, Ffion Vickers 47th, Alicia Thomas 54th, Sally Gambling 56th, Eleanor Hicks 59th, Sophia Harpin 84th, Eleanor Farr 112th.

The year-7s ran second and Lowri Morgan quickly joined the lead group for the Cowbridge girls, finishing in seventh position. The rest of the year-7 team finished in the following positions: Sanant Emyr 15th, Selina Radcliffe 32nd, Sophie Oddy 35th, Jasmine Emery 49th and Megan Roberts 111th.

The senior race was the last of the afternoon and despite missing a few girls due to other commitments, Cowbridge still fielded a strong team. The first girl home for Cowbridge was Fiona Bray in ninth place, closely followed by Jessica James 12th, Nikita John 16th, and Meg Langton Cryer



Year-8 cross-country team.

49th. We now await the final team results which will follow shortly.

## HOCKEY

THE year-9 hockey team continued their winning streak by beating Llantwit Major.

Sally Gambling was quick to get the first goal from a short corner taken by Evie Williams. Hannah Lister Sims was next on the scoreboard, scoring twice.

They were having more shots in the first half but Llantwit's GK saved well and some of the Cowbridge shots were off target.

In the second half, Ellie Eddy Williams and Rosa Hartman showed their class by taking the ball down from defence to attack, and Ellie finished with a lovely strike to get a goal, and Rosa scored from a short corner with a first strike. The score was 5-0 to Cowbridge.

Player of the match: Megan McNamee.

Senior hockey: Cowbridge played

Glantaf in senior hockey. Glantaf are Cowbridge's main rivals and over the past two years have come out on top.

With a new goalkeeper for Cowbridge, Amy Taylor, and the bare minimum of players, Cowbridge still went out fighting and after two minutes Molly Llewellyn scored a great goal.

Amy Taylor made some excellent saves in goal and Bethan Moorcraft was always on call to ensure the ball was not in Cowbridge's defending circle too much.

From one of Beth's free hits outside the circle, she passed to Katie Howson who again went through a number of players to pass to Molly Llewellyn in the circle, who scored her second goal of the game.

In the second half, Glantaf did get one goal back but excellent work from the whole squad ensured Cowbridge still won the game 2-1.

Player of the match: Katie Howson.

## NETBALL

Congratulations to Kim Jerwood and Megan McNamee, who were selected from approximately 120 girls at the under-14 county netball trials.

They will now attend the second and final trial with 50 other girls to hopefully gain selection into the final squad.

## RUGBY

THE year-7 rugby team produced an impressive win against Barry Boys in their second game of the season.

The final score was 40-0, with all players continuing to play well, and following on from their great victory against Llantwit last week.

Having to pick a man of the match was an impossible task, with so many boys playing well. Dan Marshall, Max Lucas, Will Pitt and Isaac Buffery all scrummaged extremely well to produce a brilliant platform to work off.

Rees Durlucia and Cameron Roy ran hard from No 8, breaking through a number of tackles and gaining a lot of yards.

Jac Roberts, Sam Corkhill, Dylan Cottle and Dylan Lloyd-Doyle worked tirelessly in defence, stealing the ball and creating countless turn-overs throughout the game.

Rhys Bradshaw provided lovely service to his fellow backs, with Bevan Howells and Max Cunningham bursting through the middle.

Rhian Williams also worked well in attack, cutting the angles, and shipping the ball out to the players on the wings in plenty of space. Ieuan Llewellyn then came on in the second half, and put in a strong performance on the wing, with a number of weaving runs through the defence.

Year-9: After a convincing first win of the season against Llantwit 56-0, the year-9 rugby team, led by Joe Davies, were in confident mood heading to Barry for another crucial Welsh Cup qualifying match.

In blustery conditions, the team went a score down in the opening five minutes after some rampaging Barry forward play. With skipper Davies rallying his troops, the score was soon levelled and a weaving run from centre Tom Lucas, was converted by Matt Harper.

Another try soon followed after a powerful run from Tom Trotman, playing at outside centre, once again converted by Harper. The forwards

soon realised that if they could keep the ball for any length of time and went through a number of phases, more tries would follow.

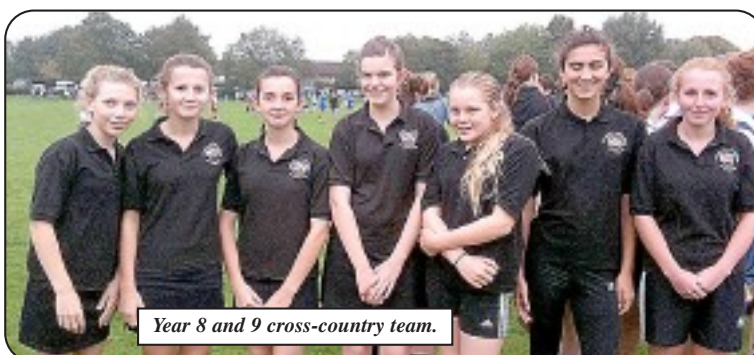
In-form winger, Rian Thomas benefited from the tactic and scored a fantastic hat-trick to seal the game. Trotman crossed once again after some fantastic work by rampaging hooker Tom Evans.

Try of the game though, went to Pete Anderson, playing only his second game of rugby. With the ever present Ben Jones and skipper Davies at the breakdown causing havoc, Anderson pounced on a turnover ball and cruised in from the halfway line showing great pace.

Final score: Cowbridge 41-Barry 24.



Senior girls cross-country team.



Year 8 and 9 cross-country team.

## LLANTWIT MAJOR JUNIOR FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

### Josh is hat-trick hero for the under-13s

by GWYN JOHN

**BOTH** Llantwit Major under-12 A and under-14 sides lost their unbeaten records on Saturday against their close rivals.

The under-12 A entertained the only other unbeaten team in the division, Sully Sports A and the visitors edged home 4-3 in a thrilling encounter.

The match looked all over for Llantwit at half-time as they trailed 4-0, but they rallied strongly after the break and came back into the match with goals from Luke Beattie, Sam Snaith and a penalty from Moses Gee.

Sully managed to hold on in the final minutes to clinch the points.

Meanwhile, the under-14 side entertained the unbeaten Porthkerry Panthers and lost 3-1, which was their first ever defeat in three seasons in the Vale league.

While Llantwit wasted a couple of first half chances, the visitors made no mistake in taking theirs and led 2-0 at the interval.

Gabriel Oram pulled a goal back, but on the day Porthkerry Panthers wanted it more, and scored a third goal to

extend their lead at the top to six points.

The under-13 A entertained Cadoxton Imps A and won 6-4 with Josh Morgan notching a hat-trick, Rhys Beynon (2) and Cai Evans added further goals to see Llantwit to victory.

Both under-12 B and under-13 B lost away, the under-12 B 10-1 at Rhooose with debutant Ieuan Williams scoring.

Cadoxton Imps B were too strong for the under-13 B at Barry Sports Centre and won 6-1 with Alex Parry scoring Llantwit's consolation goal.

The under-15 team fared no better when they lost 5-0 at home to Penarth Town despite an excellent performance from Connor Beattie.

However, the under-16 side put up the best performance of the day when they beat a strong Cadoxton Imps outfit 5-4 at Barry.

It was an end-to-end match with both sides sharing the lead. However, it was the Major who came out on top with goals from Chris Blatchford (2), Ed Howley, Aiden Weeks and Josh Brew to clinch the points.

## The Warriors are on a roll

"THE season is a marathon not a sprint" - that was the pre-match message from manager Iwan Llion, and two fine performances on the trot have seen the confidence and self belief of Cowbridge under-14 Warriors soar.

With high skill levels, lots of goals scored and very few conceded, it proves that patience pays off. A tenacious Sully side put up a spirited performance and tested the defensive organisation of Eugene Richards, Steff Godwin, Jac Hamilton and Owain Llion, who all performed superbly.

Attacks launched by Dan Oddy and Cai Owen allowed striker Joe Davies ample opportunity to grab a bag full of goals.

The effort seen in training from Owen Jauncey, Cory Brooks and Seb Chan paid off, while keeper Amos Booth provided the highlight with an amazing double save of a penalty

which ensured his clean sheet.

## PARK LIONS

Inspired by the Welsh victory over Switzerland, last Saturday's game against a spirited and determined Park Lions side proved that the Warriors' game plan is taking shape.

A solid defence, led by captain Ben Jones and Max Lloyd, allowed some creative play from Cai and Dan in midfield which saw striker Louis Phillips grab a very skillful hat-trick.

There were goals from Max Regan, Leon Gorman kept the Lions' main threat quiet, and there was a solid debut in defence from Jac Davies.

An absolute humdinger of a goal from Rian Thomas was partial, yet not substantial, consolation to Mrs Thomas - his somewhat upset Irish mother, following that morning's impressive Welsh victory against Ireland.

Da iawn pawb.

RO

## Llantwit Major Cavaliers are champions in Sunday league!

**LLANTWIT MAJOR** Cavaliers cricketers drew the season to a close when they accepted the Sunday league winners' trophy from ex-England player Vic Marks at the SWALEC stadium in front of a packed audience.

The Cavaliers celebrated when their final game in mid-September was cancelled due to the Brecon Festival taking precedence on their Christ Church College ground, and this secured the Cavaliers' top position after dominating much of the season with several wins against the elite of the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Sunday league.

This was achieved by a superior bowling attack which constantly bowled the opposition out cheaply, making the run chase easier for the Cavaliers' batsmen.

Opening bowlers Dave Cheal and Mark Dowling both consistently took wickets, and with their guile and swing always managed to keep the runs down to a minimum.

Special mention also goes to Oxford university student Ben Jenkins and his younger brother Joe whose spin bowling both played an important part in the Cavaliers' success, along with the Scottish pace attack of Scott and Fraser Wheatley.

Batting was always going to be easy with low totals to chase, and there was centuries throughout the season from captain Mark Coldwell 108 v Panteg, James Snelson with his first Cavaliers century of 128 against second place Panteg, and Sam Pickford's memorable 123, also against Panteg.

This has been another successful season for the Cavaliers after previously winning back-to-back

divisions, following that up by winning the Vale of Glamorgan Midweek 20/20 League against some of the top Vale teams, including Cardiff, Penarth, Lisvane and local team Barry Athletic among several other teams.

To top that off, the third placed Cavaliers was the only team chosen from the 1st Division of the Welsh Club Cricket Conference League to be considered for progression up to the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire League, which is the feeder league to the top tier of Welsh cricket.

The club wish to thank sponsors Brevin Dolphin, Engineering Services (Bridgend) LTD, Simons Plaice and Coast Tapas Bar for their much appreciated sponsorship of the club and are grateful for their commitment to grass roots local sports.

MC



PICTURED: the successful students Morganne Gomez Jones, Jamie Halford, Liam Rees, Dominic Todd and Chelsea Rees; Matthew Bennett, Thomas Haysham, Bradley Halford, Lucy Newman; Ollie Tipples, Jensen Rees, Cameron Williams, Cian Allen and Shannon Haysham. Missing from the picture is Keita Enfield.



## Tae Kwon Do students excel

CONTINUING on from our recent success at the WOMAA world games, the Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon Do travelled to Liverpool to attend the fifth tournament of a series of six Welsh master tournaments.

The club came away with a total of 29 medals, 12 gold, eight silver and nine bronze.

After a successful tournament, travelling home on the Sunday, the club competitors and supporters spent the day at West Midlands Safari Park where a good time was had by all.

Successful in their respective categories were: Cian Allen, gold in traditional patterns, silver in

both the point and continuous sparring; Lucy Newman, bronze in point sparring, silver in traditional patterns; Cameron Williams, gold in point and the continuous sparring, bronze in traditional patterns.

Shannon Haysham, silver in both point and continuous sparring; Thomas Haysham, gold in both point and continuous sparring.

Ollie Tipples, gold in point sparring and silver in the continuous sparring; Liam Rees, bronze in the point and continuous sparring; Matthew Bennett, gold in continuous sparring and bronze in the point sparring; Morganne Gomez Jones, bronze in both the point and continuous sparring; Keita Enfield, bronze in point sparring.

Representing the Colcot School of Tae Kwon Do, Chelsea Rees took the silver in continuous sparring, with Jamie Halford, gold in the continuous sparring and silver in the point sparring; Jamie also competed in the advanced men's point sparring where he took gold.

Bradley Halford took gold in both the point and continuous sparring.

Bradley also fought up a category in the point sparring and took the gold.

Following in his older brother's footsteps and competing for the first time, young Jensen Rees took the bronze in continuous sparring.

For further information, phone 01446 406372 or 07816 417494. RT

## Karate competitors shine



PICTURED left: Members of the Rising-Sun Kyokushin Karate Club. Four of their members represented their country at the British Open Championships

ON Saturday, October 1, a team of four competitors from the Rising-Sun Kyokushin Karate Club were selected to represent Wales at the BKK British Open Championships at the K2 Arena in Crawley, West Sussex.

In preparation for this tournament, club members were up at 5am three days a week training before work, whilst having to fit in family life, extra afternoon training sessions and usual evening classes.

First on for the club in the novice heavyweight section was Paul Stephens.

Paul had three tough, durable opponents but with his determination and great punching power he gained the unanimous decision and

the well deserved British 2011 Open Champion title.

Heavyweight hopeful Des Brown fought extremely well, he went three rounds with his second Dan blackbelt opponent and stood strong, not giving any ground away. Des fought relentlessly to the end of the match, where the decision just went to the opposition.

Caroline Whitlock took third place in the women's under 65 kilo category after a great effort in the semi finals.

Caroline was caught with a kick to the head and her opponent was given the win; although Caroline was willing to continue, the referees and judges thought the decision should stand.

Sempai Spencer competed in the under 70 kilo category.

He won his first match by ippon (full point), first of all by

catching his opponent with a jumping spinning heel kick to the head, and shortly after with a roundhouse kick to the head.

This stopped the English adversary in his tracks and Spencer took the round by storm.

Sempai advanced to the quarter final rounds, where he broke nine boards with three consecutive strikes.

The reason for the board breaking is to determine a winner if a draw occurs at the end of a round.

Spencer's next match was against Swedish opponent Westley Jensen.

The match saw Spencer dominate the fight in both rounds, but only managed to get a draw.

The match again came down to board breaking, where both men broke the same number of boards.

The overall decision then came down to weight, which the Swede won by having a five kilo weight difference.

Spencer took fifth place in the world last year and has been ranked as being in the top three best light-weight fighters in the Kyokushin world.

He has been chosen to compete in Poland in November to challenge the best fighters in the world.

The Rising-Sun Kyokushin Club train at the Samurai Dojo, Savoy Buildings, Barry.

Anyone can come along for a first free lesson, Mondays 6pm-7pm juniors, 7pm-8pm seniors.

For latest news and info visit our website www.rising-sun-kyokushin.co.uk

LH

# GOLFING FARMERS TOUR TORBAY!



TWENTY-EIGHT members and guests of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society (pictured) recently returned from a very enjoyable three-day tour of Torbay, playing excellent courses in Exeter, Torquay and Thurlestone.

Playing for the David Evans (Agriculture) Ltd Trophy, the 54-hole stableford competition was keenly contested with just six points separating the top five, Glyn Watts-Jones taking first place with an overall score of 99 points.

Runner-up, with 97 points, was Chris Rooney, followed in joint fourth place by Clive Thomas and Barrie Melhuish, who both scored 94 points. Bryan Owen with 93 points, finished fifth.

Results from the daily competitions: Thursday, October 6 at Exeter Golf Club – winner, Jim Hayes 36 points; 2nd, David Williams with 36 points; and 3rd, Tony McCarthy with 34 points.

Friday, October 7 at Torquay Golf Club – winner, Chris Rooney with 38 points; runner-up, Aubrey Thomas with 36 points; 3rd, Barrie Melhuish with 36 points.

Saturday, October 8 at Thurlestone Golf Club – winner

Clive Edwards with 38 points; runner-up Clive Thomas with 37 points; 3rd, Gwyn Thomas with 36 points.

Members are now looking forward to their next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, October 27, at Newport (Rogerstone) Golf Club when they will be competing for the NFU Mutual team trophy, together with some excellent individual prizes supplied by sponsors Julian Kelly and David Harris.

Unfortunately, David will not be competing due to recent surgery on an old rugby injury; members wish David a speedy recovery.

TMCC

## Vale schools grab their first win

VIRGINIA Park, Caerphilly was the venue for the second fixture of the season for the Vale District under-11s against Rhymney.

From the whistle the home side was under pressure from some great counter rucking. The Vale put together some excellent ball handling, and continued this through phase after phase.

Due to Rhymney's excellent tackling it wasn't until the 10th minute that the Vale went over to open the scoring.

Vale attacks kept coming but they could not quite finish some great moves and ran in a further score before the half time whistle.

The restart saw Rhymney keep the ball tight and begin to win the breakdowns. For all of their efforts, however, they could not get an attack out of their half and some crunching tackles from the Vale's

three quarters set up quick ball for counter attacks.

This half was much closer but further well-worked tries saw The Vale Schools run out deserved winners with four unconverted tries.

Final score: Valley Schools, 0 - Vale Schools, 20.

Squad: Mikey Bosley, Ben Jones, Owen Durlucia, Barty Jones-Norton, Lewis Hawk, Lewis Bumford, Daniel Hicks, Jack Dixon, Ellis Smith, Ewan Griffiths, Ruben Williams, Luke Connor, Ben Batten, Louis Harris, Cai Lloyd, Iwan Hadfield, Evan Thomas, James Rees, Thomas Jac, Barney Langdon, Joseph Jones, Ioan Williams, Jamie Howells, Jac Little, Wil Parsons, Rhys Bradshaw, Aaron Arthur.

MB

GEM NOTE: For a report of the first game of the season, see page 42.

## Bowls AGM

THE annual general meeting of the Llantwit Major ladies' bowls club will take place on Monday, October 24, and as usual will be held at the Bowling Pavilion, Llantwit Major, commencing at 10am.

The agenda for this meeting is on the noticeboard. Any alterations to the rules relating to bowling, whether league or friendly, can be discussed.

Please make every effort to attend and if a lift is required, please do not hesitate to ask.

Ladies also please bear in mind Thursday, November 17, at 7pm when our club AGM will take place, again at the Pavilion.

PC

## FLINT DOES THE DOUBLE

KENFIG Hill's John Flint landed a 325-1 double with *One For Jules (11-1)* and *Heavenstown (25-1)* at Ffos Las on Sunday.

Both were ridden by his son Rhys and the former, a four-year-old bay filly, won by six lengths from *Taste The Wine* and the latter, a five-year-old chestnut gelding, scored by one-and-three-quarter lengths from *The Romford Pele* ridden by the legendary AP McCoy.

*One For Jules* is owned by Flint, a former Llanwrn steelworker who has been dubbed 'Eagle Eye' by the Racing Post owing to his knack of buying horses that go on to better things. *Heavenstone* is owned by retired farmer Malcolm Page from Pencoe who, although he backed his horse at 33-1 told me: "That was a nice surprise."

Those few punters who backed the horse on the tote were rewarded with odds of just over 48-1!

The disappointment of the race was Tim Vaughan's heavily-backed *Minella For Party*, which cost £75,000 but who could only finish third.

John Flint, who is assisted by his wife Martine, was landing his first double at the course and his French-bred *Kapdor* which finished third under his son Tom, behind *Manadam* and *Colditz* in the conditional jockeys' race, looks

like one to keep an eye on.

Followers of champion jockey AP McCoy were delighted when he brought home the 5-1 favourite *Sentimental Journey* in the Gwynne Price Handicap Hurdle.

However, the runner-up *Illysanta Christina*, who was beaten by three-and-a-half lengths, was not disgraced. Haverfordwest's Dai Rees saw his *Come Home Quietly* land the novice steeplechase beating *Old Wigmore* by half a length in an exciting finish.

Despite drizzling rain throughout the day, a large crowd, many from the Vale of Glamorgan, attended and by the time the riders for the Countryside Alliance Rural Race Challenge Charity Race lined up for the start, it was getting dark. First past the post was *Tea For Three*, the 5-2 favourite ridden by West Wales trainer Rebecca Curtis and which proved too speedy for the Tim Vaughan-trained *Saute* ridden by Craig Messenger.

The opening maiden hurdle race went to 20-1 outsider *Candelita* trained by Lambourn's Jo Hughes and ridden by Mark Grant. *Candelita* had half a length to spare over the favourite *Big Time Billy* at the finish.

Brian Lee

## Players wanted

PARK LIONS are looking for players in school years-4 and 5 to join their existing teams; please contact Kim on 01446 738486 for details.

## CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

We welcome your news, reports and other items of interest - email us at: [gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk)



## KENFIG HILL RFC ROUND-UP

# Mules triumph over Felinfoel



Shaun Burnell glides past the opposition.

IT has been a few years since the Mules visited the Recreation Ground in Felinfoel and they expected, and were given, a hard game by the home side, who were in Division One last season.

Felinfoel put Kenfig Hill under pressure from the start with hard, physical and sometimes illegal tactics, but the Mules' defence was again up to it and thanks to the superb leadership of captain Gareth Edwards, they kept their cool.

Felinfoel missed a kickable penalty before Kenfig Hill's Rhodri Clark, playing at outside-half, put a penalty over.

At this juncture, the home side received two yellow cards for technical offences but their defence was solid against the Mules attack.

'Foel continued to attack and were awarded a penalty try which saw

Steve Gillard yellow-carded for another technical offence. Their scrum-half Gareth Smith converted.

This gave a half time score of Kenfig Hill 3, Felinfoel 7.

Coach Nigel Evans then made some suggestions in his half-time team talk and the Mules started the second half with a bang when scrum-half Matthew Tossell picked up the ball from the base of the scrum on the halfway line and sprinted down the touchline to score a fine individual try. Rhodri Clark converted from the touchline, with Clark adding a penalty.

Kenfig Hill were then in control for the rest of the game and coach Evans made some astute substitutions to enhance the Mules' performance.

Centre Nicky Morgan followed up a chip ahead to touch down, outpacing the home defence, and Clark put over the conversion.

Second row Thomas Maund then scored a superb individual try

when he intercepted a pass on the Kenfig Hill 25 and sprinted down the field with the Felinfoel team in pursuit. He touched down under the posts, with Clark making no mistake with the conversion.

Kenfig Hill went all out to chase a bonus point, with only some good defensive work keeping them out. Winger Ben Clarke made some mesmerising runs.

The final score was Kenfig Hill 27, Felinfoel 7.

Kenfig Hill's Steve Gillard was named by the referee as man of the match for another all action display, with Matthew Tossell fitting in well in an unaccustomed position as scrum-half.

Chris Tossell had another storming game at centre, Shaun Burnell put in some outstanding tackles on the wing with the pack playing well as a unit, while back rower Scott Wall was again prominent throughout the game.

**KENFIG HILL SECONDS 33 ABERAVON QUINS SECONDS 19**  
THE Mules' second string battled to a close win over a physical Aberavon Quins at Croft Goch with both teams giving committed performances.

The Mules started on



Thomas Maund sprints to the line.



ABOVE: Man of the match Steve Gillard on the charge.

(All photographs by PETER GILLING).

the front foot and came close to scoring on two or three occasions. This pressure soon paid off and lock Dan Wright dummied his way over to score the first try of the day.

Further first half tries were scored by two of the Mules 'old guard', ageless scrum-half Ryan Giles and wing Alex Pearce, the latter following an intelligent kick ahead from centre Mark Fitzgerald.

The visitors possessed a formidable pack of forwards, including an immense front row, and their driving forward play eventually paid dividends when the Quins scored two well taken tries before the break.

The second half continued to be a very close-fought affair, with both teams playing good rugby.

The Mules scored two further tries, the first by No 8 Matthew Bate with a powerful 25-metre dash to the line, and an opportunistic try, following a kick and chase, from classy fly-

half Owen Davies.

The Quins, however, battled until the final whistle and they scored a fine individual try with the last move of the game.

The Mules' man of the match award was given to centre Mark Fitzgerald for his strong running and tackling in the middle of the backline.

There was also a welcome return for flanker Matthew Howe, who deserves a mention for a cameo performance during which he was able to demonstrate his adroit ball winning skills at the breakdown.

It was announced after the game that, with regret, skipper Alan Brace was giving up the captaincy of the Mules Second XV due to injury. The players would like to thank him for his leadership and contribution to the team last season and this.

The position of second team captain will be now be undertaken by second row, Rob Thomas.

GOS

## Bryncethin under-10s win with running rugby

**BRYNCETHIN under-10s travelled to Port Talbot to play at Corus's home ground.**

The first game kicked off with Bryncethin playing against Briton Ferry, and the game got under way with an excellent start from Bryncethin who took control of the game with a good try from Iwan Davies.

Bryncethin kept up constant pressure on the opposition which resulted in a penalty try, then after the break a solo run by Tom Painter gave Bryncethin their third try.

Briton Ferry then pulled back a try, but this made Bryncethin more determined and with an excellent team effort Tom Painter was able to make his second try of the game.

AB

Mason Jones kicked all four conversions superbly for an end score of 28-5 to Bryncethin.

Man of the match was awarded to Niall Bamford for outstanding work at the breakdown.

The second game got under way with Bryncethin putting up excellent play against Corus. Bryncethin showed great maturity and courage during this game and kept up their great team spirit in a final score of 7-7.

Man of the match was awarded to Kane Walters for his great improvement and commitment to the team.

Team: Mason, Tom P, Tom L, Billy, Nathan, Leon, Greg, Kane, Iwan, Liam, Niall, Geraint, Dafydd.

RS

## UNDER-12 GIRLS SHOW PROMISE



Porthcawl Town Athletic under-12s.

**PORTHCAWL Town Athletic under-12 girls soccer team has joined the South Wales Girls League for the 2011/12 season.**

The girls have had a very promising start with wins against Pontypridd, Lisvane, Cyncoed and a draw with Dinas Powys.

All new players are welcome, 07979 655190.

including under-11s, 12s and under-14s; come along to the skills sessions on a weekday evening or a game to try out girls soccer.

Games normally take place on Sunday mornings and transport to Lisvane, Cyncoed and a draw with Dinas Powys.

Please contact Rachel or Jon on 07979 655190.

## BRIDGEND HOCKEY ROUND-UP

# Men's First XI earn first points of season

**AFTER defeat last weekend to Newent in their opening Davis Wood Hockey League opener, Bridgend Men's First XI played host to Yate at Pencoed Comprehensive School.**

After a much improved performance on last week's showing, they secured their first points of the season after a 1-1 draw against their visitors from the west country.

Bridgend started off the better team, with the midfield of Gareth Coleman, Rhidian Cole, Steve Murphy and the two Andys - Jones and Schofield - taking control from the start, and it was Coleman who opened the scoring in the second half with a fantastic strike from the edge of the 'D'.

Picking up the ball outside the area, he beat a defender and then let fly with a thunderous shot which gave the 'keeper no chance.

Despite creating numerous chances throughout an even second half, a goal late on from Yate put paid to any hopes the home team had of gaining three deserved points.

Bridgend Men's Second XI, having gone down last weekend to UW Swansea, made the trip to the capital to face Cardiff & UWIC, and it was veteran striker Ian Davies who got Bridgend a share of the spoils with a neatly

taken goal.

It was Davies himself who had a chance to win the game in the second half, but he missed a golden chance of securing maximum points.

Bridgend Men's Third XI also travelled to Cardiff, and after coming up against a strong home side, fell to a defeat by 11 goals to 0.

Bridgend Ladies First XI got their first win of the South Wales Premier Division Two season, thanks to a well earned win against Haverfordwest at Pencoed Comprehensive School.

Having dominated the game for long periods, The Ravens were grateful to Louise Jones and the returning globe-

trotter Sian Rosser, who scored the goals to secure all three points.

This weekend's fixtures: Bridgend Men's First XI v Weston super Mare (away); Bridgend Men's Second XI v Neath (home); Bridgend Ladies First XI v Penarth (away); Bridgend Ladies Second XI v Cwmataw (home).

If you're interested in joining Bridgend hockey, training sessions take place for men (every Tuesday) 7.30pm-9pm, Ladies (every Wednesday) 7.30pm-9pm, and Youth (6pm-7.30pm).

For more information, visit the club website at [www.bridgend-hc.co.uk](http://www.bridgend-hc.co.uk) or email secretary@bridgendhc.co.uk

RC

## A team effort from Pencoed RFC under-15s

**PENCOED under-15s travelled up to local rivals Bridgend Athletic on Sunday.**

There was good ball won from the scrums and lineouts by Pencoed, which helped Chris Cooper score the first try of the day.

With good pick ups and drives by the Pencoed forwards, and good battling against the Athletic defence, Lloyd Webb scored the second try, followed by Chris Cooper scoring a third, which was successfully converted by Alex King.

With more good hands from the back, Chris Cooper was able to score the next try, followed by Rhys Brownell, which was successfully converted by Alex King.

The score at half-time was 29-0 to Pencoed. In the second half, both teams made signifi-

cant changes. Cole Lewis scored the last try of the day for Pencoed, which was converted by Alex King, and with some hard battling, Bridgend Athletic pulled together to score a consolation try. The Pencoed coaches awarded the man of the match to all the Pencoed boys, because they all played as a team.

Squad: James Merchant, Jayke Broker, Jac Briggs, Owain Clarke, Scott Ewing, Cole Lewis, Aled Barghery, Rhys Brownell, Daniel Maiden, Lloyd Webb, Jacob Charles, Lewis Brennan, Morgan Jefferies, Chris Cooper, Jonathan Clatworthy, Jason Clatworthy, Liam Bowen, Ellis Griffiths, Jamie Dyer, Patrick Canham, Kristen Morgan, Alex King and Jordan Fox.

JM

## Athletic Seconds win out in a tight encounter

**BARGOED 2nds 25 BRIDGEND ATHLETIC 2nds 27**

THE Athletic eventually came out on top in the Rhymney valley in a hard fought game in which fortunes fluctuated throughout.

Bridgend Athletic travelled away with a large squad bolstered by a number who were stepping down from last week's first team defeat at UWIC.

Playing down a considerable slope with the wind behind them the Athletic had the better of the first half with tries by Lloyd Pemberton and Mike Hathaway supplemented by Tom Parry's conversions and a penalty goal against two penalties by Bargoed.

However, after the

turn-around, the visitors were up against it and found it difficult to rally against a lively Bargoed team, especially when flanker Chris Whitcombe was substituted.

The home team notched up three more penalties with only one from Parry in reply. As the game wore on, Bargoed then ran in two unconverted tries but fortunately these were separated by another Pemberton try that was converted by Parry.

Nathan Holman and Lee Murphy worked hard up front and Lindsay McCausland, returning from a long-term injury, added much needed punch at half-back.

AB

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# Porthcawl RFC put Birchgrove to the sword

**PORThCAWL  
BIRCHGROVE**

**50  
10**

**Photos by  
TRACEY WILLIAMS**

**PORThCAWL put on possibly the performance of the day in the first round of the WRU Bowl, putting Division 4 visitors Birchgrove to the sword in emphatic fashion.**

With James Godbeer having pulled out before kick-off, it was left to Dai James and Nick Nutman to command the midfield at the hub of all Porthcawl's attacks and although Birchgrove took an early lead with a soft converted try, once James found his line of running, he crossed for a good try that Lloyd Giles converted to make it all square at seven apiece.

The visitors, showing an early penchant for moving the ball smartly early on, got their reward with a penalty for 7-10 but the Seaweeds took on a ruthless demeanour and pulled away to a half-time lead of 22-10 through Giles' penalty, followed by a driving try from lock Lloyd Long, and the currently irrepressible wing Sean Simmonds, who nabbed his fifth try in four starts, showing sound hands in taking his chance.

Former Wales outside-half Arwel Thomas, now coaching at Birchgrove, tried to inspire his shak- en charges during the interval; however, with the marauding Porthcawl pack taking full command with Long, flanker Sion Dunkley, prop Gavin Williams and hooker Steve Phillips

outstanding throughout, James Wheatley's supply of lineout ball kept Mathew Roberts feeding his hungry backs.

From some great attacking play, it was Dunkley who next profited, crossing for a deserved score, improved by Giles for 29-10 before Nick Jones hacked through for the touchdown, converted this time by Nutman.

At 36-10 there was no coming back for Birchgrove as the match entered the final quarter.

Seaweeds' tight head prop Jamie Fry, a tireless worker throughout, fell victim to cramp 10 minutes from time to be replaced by the returning and new slim-line veteran Jon Palmer.

Full-back Ollie Jones, forever a threat with his mesmerising incursions into the line, weaved his way through a bemused defence for the sixth try of the day, converted by Giles in front of the posts before the scoring was rounded off, with Nutman getting a predictable try for all his hard work; Gareth Davies adding the extra points for a resounding 50-10 result.

Coach Kerry Townley was pleased with his young side's efforts ahead of the crunch league match this Saturday against local rivals and high-flyers Cefn Cribwr.

**TW**

## Porthcawl under-14s play gr-eight!

**PORThCAWL Town AFC under-14s made it two wins out of two in the league, thanks to an 8-1 win over Port Talbot Town.**

It only took the Seaside's eight minutes to break the deadlock after full-back Rob Davies picked up the ball on the edge of the box and shot home into the bottom corner.

Jorge Crofts scored the second with a close range angled shot into the far corner and then followed up with a lob shot over the 'keeper to make it three.

Five minutes from half-time, Danny Coleman went down the left hand side and drilled a left foot shot past the 'keeper to make it four.

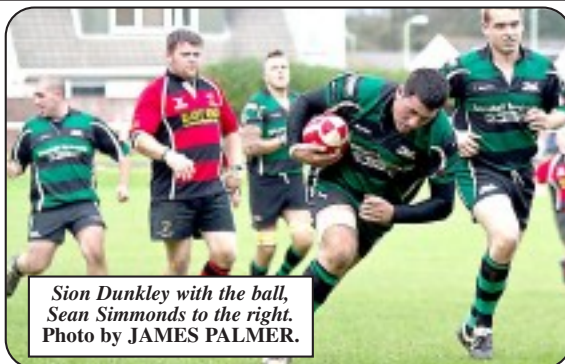
The second half saw

Connor Hockridge smash a shot into the roof of the goal, leaving the 'keeper no chance, and halfway through the second half, Rob Davies picked up his second of the game when captain Scott Hodgson broke the defence with a powerful run and finished with a fine shot into the bottom corner.

Danny Coleman picked up his second and the best goal of the game with a solo run down the left, rounding the 'keeper with ease before slotting home.

Port Talbot, to their credit, weren't finished and picked up a penalty which was placed into the left hand corner and was the least they deserved, for a side that is a year younger than Porthcawl.

**MC**



*Sion Dunkley with the ball, Sean Simmonds to the right. Photo by JAMES PALMER.*



*Lloyd Long.*



*Ollie Jones with the ball, Dai James in support.*

## Pencoed Seconds' great away win!

**PENCOED Seconds came through with a strong second-half performance to deservedly win this District League match.**

Pencoed wing Owain Shakespeare pulled off two tackles in succession in the early stages to deny the home break-aways, and full back Jamie Williams then cleaned up another home raid with a fine 50-metre clearance.

Nantymoel opened the scoring following a Pencoed breakdown at half way, with full back Ben Griffiths capitalising to race away unopposed.

Pencoed hit back immediately, Williams countering to split the Nantymoel defence before finding Richard Gregory in support. Gregory handed on to Paul Macfarlane who put left wing Robert Spear over wide out.

Pencoed's Adam Halse, returning after a four-year absence from the game, then pulled off a good tackle on his opposite number to halt the next home attack.

Pencoed took the lead with a superb length of the field try, the ball travelling through countless hands before Rhys Morgan of the front row union popped up to score wide out. Halse converted with a fine kick for Pencoed to lead 12-5.

**Second team fixture:  
Nantymoel 12 Pencoed 17**

A period of home pressure saw their centre score at the posts, with the conversion levelling matters at 12-12.

Pencoed then got on top territorially and camped near the home line for more than 10 minutes, but could not break through a resolute defence.

With both sets of supporters anticipating a draw, Pencoed moved the ball some 40 metres out and prop forward Christian Powell acted as the link with a flip pass to Williams, who raced away to win the match 17-12 in the final minute!

These valuable league

points away from home kept undefeated Pencoed at the top of the table.

Pencoed Youth proved far too strong for the newly-formed Bryncethin and ran out 58-6 winners. In crossing for two tries, scrum half Tom Summers registered his first tries for the club, having played since under-11.

On Saturday Pencoed host Bryncoch in Division Three South West, the Second XV travel to Maesteg Harlequins, with the Youth at Nantymoel. All three are league matches.

**TR**

## Leisure League round-up

**GARETH DAVIS ensured that West House FC's perfect start to the Bridgend Six-a-side Sunday top flight continued as they battled to a 2-0 victory over Hangover Heroes.**

B Attack will be hoping their commanding 4-0 defeat of Young Exiles proves the catalyst to their season, while The Pie Boys turned up the heat in Division One with a 2-0 victory against

Better Than Inter, Gary Player starring.

Little F's season is starting to take shape in the Wednesday Five-a-side league as they made it three wins out of four after easing out FC Ogmores by three goals to nil.

Elsewhere, Uvebeentango-d did just enough to overcome ABCDE FC, 3-2 the final outcome.

Anyone who wants to join the Six-a-side football leagues in Barnsley can ring 0845 230 2340 or visit [www.leisure-leagues.net](http://www.leisure-leagues.net)



*Pencoed under-14s.*

## Pencoed under-14s go goal crazy

**PENCOED under-14s welcomed Brynna to the Woodland and started well with a cracking goal from Lewis Butler.**

Pencoed had a free kick, which was taken quickly by Connor Goldsworthy, who passed it to Lewis Butler to score his second goal.

Ben Clarke was next to score for Pencoed with a lovely individual goal, and Lewis Butler got his hat-trick, and then his fourth just before half-time.

Pencoed started the second half sloppily but Ben Clarke soon got Pencoed's sixth goal, before Lewis Butler grabbed his fifth and sixth to give Pencoed a 8-0 lead.

Pencoed made a few changes which led to Evan Price scoring a cracking goal, while Jordan Burrows was next on the scoresheet with a well-hit free kick.

Evan Price hit his second goal to give a full-time score of Pencoed 11, Brynna 0. Big credit to Brynna as they never gave up.

*Pencoed squad: Nicholas Edment, Evan Price, Zac Edwards, Tom Miller, Jonathan Humphreys, Alex Howland, Lewis Butler, Dylan Barratt, Connor Goldsworthy, Ben Clarke, Jordan Burrows. Subs: Rhys Edwards and Joshua Harris, Ben Gwyther and Lloyd Cheesman (both injured).*

**Pencoed v Bridgend Town**

**PENCOED welcomed Bridgend Town and started very well when Ben Clarke hit a shot which the 'keeper couldn't control, and Lewis**

**Butler pounced on to slot in Pencoed's first goal.**

Ben Clarke got Pencoed's second, Lewis Butler grabbed the third and Tom Miller then put in a cracking cross for Lewis Butler to head in his hat-trick and Pencoed's fourth goal.

Pencoed's build-up play was excellent for Ben Clarke to score a cracking fifth goal.

Jordan Burrows scored an excellent goal with Connor Goldsworthy next on the scoresheet with a great goal.

Mason Roach was next to strike for Pencoed's eighth goal, while Zack Edwards made it nine. Mason Roach also scored for a final score of Pencoed 13, Bridgend Town 0.

**Llangynwd v Pencoed under-14s**

**PENCOED travelled to Llangynwd and goals from Butler, Connor Goldsworthy, Jordan Burrows, Evan Price and Mason Roach gave Pencoed a 5-0 lead half-time.**

The second half saw some changes, but Pencoed still kept the pressure on and were soon 6-0 up with a cracking goal from Lewis Butler.

Jordan Burrows scored a stunning goal and Lloyd Cheesman got his first goal for Pencoed to give Pencoed a 8-0 lead.

Zack Edwards, Lewis Butler (with three) and Edwards again gave Pencoed a 13-0 lead.

*Pencoed under-14s are looking for a sponsor. Anyone interested, please contact Billy Butler on 07935 954859.*

**CB**

## Ath under-11s on double duty

**THIS week the Ath travelled to Cardiff to play games against Llandaff and Fairwater.**

The first game saw the Ath play Llandaff, and the Ath made all the early running and were rewarded with a well taken try from Dan O'Sullivan.

An unsuccessful conversion made the score 5-0.

The Ath put some great plays together and were rewarded just before the break with Dan O'Sullivan showing some great footwork to go over and score.

He then stepped up and converted to make the half-time score 12-0 to the Ath.

The second half saw Teo Fillis crash through to score with the Ath's first attack of the half.

The conversion was missed, making it 17-0.

The Ath continued to dominate the game and Louis King was next to score after supporting the attack well; Jamie Marshall converted to take the score to 24-0.

The final Ath try was scored by Louis King, who managed to crash

over the line, as Sam Veasey converted to make it 31-0.

Llandaff managed an unconverted consolation try just before the end of the match to make the final score Bridgend Ath 31, Llandaff 5.

**Bridgend Ath v Fairwater**

**IN game two, the Ath played Fairwater.** Some good early pressure from the Ath allowed Jack Jenkins to force his way over the line to score, and Kasari Mehta converted to make it 7-0.

Fairwater managed to break the Ath defence to score an unconverted try to make it 7-5 to the Ath.

The Ath put some good moves together and Sion Vigus found space to score with the Ath's first attack of the half.

From the re-start, the Ath won the ball back and Louis King smashed his way over to score.

The conversion was missed making it 19-5 to the Ath.

The final try of the half was scored by Dan O'Sullivan after some good passing from the Ath created space for

him to cross the line; Kasari Mehta converted to make it 26-5 to the Ath at half time.

The second half started with Fairwater upping their game, and they scored three unanswered tries with two conversions to bring back the score to 26-24 in favour of the Ath.

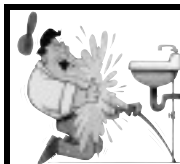
The Ath recovered well with another great passing move freeing Lance Burn to score in the corner. The conversion was missed but the Ath still lead 31-24.

Fairwater put pressure on the Ath in the final minutes and managed to score a try which was converted to make the final score Bridgend Ath 31, Fairwater 31.

*Ath: Jack Obbard, Teo Fillis, Thomas Anthony, Jamie Marshall, Sam Veasey, William Goodall, Daffydd Beech, Ffion Revell, Connor Fabian, Kasari Mehta, Taine Waite, Louis King, Josh Tidy, Jack Jenkins, Jack Mustoe, Sion Vigus, Dan O'Sullivan, Megan Webb, Thomas Reed, Gwilym John, Lance Burn, Charles Creffield, Oran Harry.*

**BR**





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Thank You.  
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# GEM Family Notices

## Family Notices

### KIRWAN Anne Marlen

Passed away peacefully on 4th October 2011, Marlen, beloved wife of Bill, most loving mother to Sharon and Sara; a cherished Granma and Great-Granma, will be dearly missed by all her devoted family and friends.

Marlen will be received into Our Lady and St Iltyd's R C Church, Ham Lane, Llantwit Major on Thursday 13th October at 6.30pm. The funeral will take place on Friday 14th October at 10am followed by interment in Llantwit Major Cemetery.

Family flowers only, however donations will be gratefully received for the Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Mrs C. James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, CF62 3DZ.

### LEWIS Gwilym

Suddenly on October 6, 2011, Gwilym of Llantwit Major. Dear loved brother of Danny, Gilbert, Maureen, George, Dorothy, Terry and Thelma. He will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Resting at WA Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major until the funeral on Friday October 14 2011, service in Bethel Baptist Church at 12 noon followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm

### MALLETT Robert 'Rob'

Peacefully on 4th October at his home in Llantwit Major. Beloved husband and best friend of Christine, father of Darren and Lorence, loving son of Dylis and the late Albert, brother to Charlie, Michael, Richard and sister Sandra and brother-in-law to Chris.

Funeral service at Holy Cross Church on Monday, 17th October 2011 at 12.30pm followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium.

Resting at Thomas Brothers. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

### HUDD Terence Edward

Peacefully at Llandough hospital after a short illness, Terry Hudd, loving husband of the late Margaret, father of Nicolas, Johannes and Simon, grandfather of Karen, Lloyd, David-John & Daniel, brother of Mabs.

Resting at A G Adams until the funeral on Monday 17th October at 2 o'clock, followed by cremation at Vale of Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu can be made to Cancer Research via the funeral director.

### DAVIES (nee Maddy) Betty Margaret

Peacefully on 6th October 2011 Betty, mother of Michael and partner Mandy, grandmother of Aimee, will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday, 20th October 2011 at 11.30am. No flowers by request, donations in lieu may be sent to Crossroads, Care in the Vale (EMI) Ltd, Room 24 West House, Stanwell Road, Penarth, CF64 2YG.

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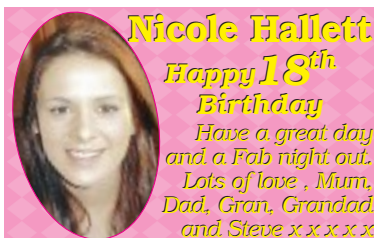
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THOMAS  
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your family  
and friends



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Birthday  
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Dad, Gran, Grandad  
and Steve x x x x x

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# Sea View Ravens go down fighting

SEA VIEW RAVENS RFC  
GWERNYFED

10  
24

SEA VIEW  
RAVENS RFC  
started its WRU  
Division One sea-  
son, having had  
their first two  
games postponed at  
short notice.

The View quickly  
took the lead after some  
fantastic running from  
full-back Savannah  
Ahmun, which saw her  
run almost the full  
length of the field to  
score in the corner. The  
opportunity to extend  
the lead was not taken  
with a missed conver-  
sion.

Gwernyfed came  
back slowly but surely,  
resulting in three well-  
worked tries before the  
end of the half. Two  
were converted for a  
half-time score of 5-19  
in favour of the visitors.

After the restart,  
Gwernyfed looked to  
carry on their try scoring  
and would have done so,  
but for some fantastic  
defensive work from  
flankers Rachel Sims  
and Angharad Synan  
and backs Melissa Clay  
and Kayleigh Salmons.

Full-back Ahmun put  
in some crunching last-  
ditch tackles as Gwern  
piled on the pressure.  
Gwern's hard work paid  
off with a further uncon-  
verted try midway  
through the second half.

The Ravens, however,  
didn't let this deter them

and kept fighting to the  
end. They were reward-  
ed when some loose  
play on Gwernyfed's  
part resulted in Savannah  
Ahmun crossing the line  
in a similar fashion to  
her first try.

Sea View Ravens  
would like to wish  
Gwernyfed good luck  
for the rest of the season  
and are looking forward  
to the return fixture. The  
Ravens would like to  
thank their fantastic  
home support for a great  
turnout in such bad  
weather.

Anybody interested in  
joining the Ravens, part  
of the youngest rugby  
club in south Wales,  
regardless of experience  
levels or fitness, can  
contact manager Dean  
McCarthy on 07896  
885164, or visit  
www.seaviewrfc.co.uk.

## FRIENDLY MATCH

THE men had a friendly  
match against Old  
Penarthians, losing 26-  
12 in a hard fought  
encounter.

Tries were scored by  
captain Joe Maytum  
and Nathan Dyball. It was  
a good result against a  
club several leagues  
above them.

This week, the Firsts  
are away to Whitchurch,  
and the Seconds at home  
to Llanishen.

MV

## NEWS FROM BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB



ABOVE: Tom Kendrick and Dave Thomas,  
winners of the recent Nancy Malpas Trophy  
THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge  
Club are as follows:

Tuesday, October 4 - first, Mark Roderick  
and Gerald Gould (63.89 per cent); second, Alan Jones  
and Lyn Matthews (59.72); third, Denis Mottram  
and Noelle Bond (58.33).

Alan and Lyn won on handicap  
New members are always welcome at Barrivale.  
For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

## CALLING CLUB OFFICIALS!

We welcome your news, reports and  
other items of interest - email us at:  
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# Barry Athletic cricket juniors presentation

LAST Saturday saw the end of season presentation night for the Barry Athletic CC Junior Section and it was time to celebrate and applaud all the excellent performances during the 2011 season.

The night's entertainment included a visit from Church Homes with some fantastic cricket equipment, games of bingo, a trophy and presentation with special guest Mike O'Shea from Glamorgan Cricket Club, a buffet, and raffle and plenty of music.

A big thank you has to go to BACC junior co-ordinator, Joanne Hopkins, for all her efforts in organising the night and also to everyone else involved, which went a long way in ensuring that the night was a massive success.

Despite a lot of competition for the awards, the winners were as followed:

Under-13s – Batsman of the Year: Thomas Jones; Bowler of the Year: James Scott; Fielder of the Year: Harry

Lambert; Player of the Year: Kieran Ferriday.

Under-11s – Batsman of the Year: Sam Hopkins; Bowler of the Year: Joshua Eady; Fielder of the Year: Jack Killin; Player of the Year: Rhys Woolmer.

Under-9s – Batsman of the Year: Reuben Hopkins; Bowler of the Year: Matthew Eady; Fielder of the Year: Wesley Baker; Most Improved Player: Kes Morrissey.

Are you interested in playing junior cricket?

A club spokesman explained: "We welcome all boys and girls between the ages of six and 15 and would love to hear from you.

"If interested, please get in touch with one of the club representatives or e-mail the club at barryathleticcc@live.co.uk."

For further details of the club, please visit the club's official website, at

www.barryathleticcricketclub.webs.com.



Barry Athletic CC under-11s' coach Scott Hopkins, handed his first bat of the season from Mark Fisher of Church Homes and the players don't take long to try out the new kit!

## Hat-tricks for both Evan and Tim

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

**L**ancarfan's Evan Williams and Aberthyn's Tim Vaughan both had hat-tricks last week.

At Ludlow on Wednesday, Evan saddled the last three winners scoring with Jolly Roger in the Beginners' Chase, Traitor in the Juvenile Maiden Hurdle and Oscar Sunset in the Open National Hunt Flat race.

Jolly Roger, a 11-4 chance, beat stable companion Wester Ross by 11 lengths. The lightly raced Traitor, who went off a 4-1 chance, had two-and-a-half lengths to spare over the Tim Vaughan trained Sardinou and Oscar Sunset, an odds-on favourite, won by eight lengths from Lieutenant Dan. All three were ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney.

Twenty-four hours later at Worcester, Tim scored with Elsafer,

Captain Dash and Loco Grande. Elsafer won the novices' hurdle race, Captain Dash the handicapped chase and Loco Grande the selling handicap hurdle.

Elsafer, the 11-8 favourite, won by two lengths from Brough Academy, Captain Dash scored by five lengths from The Grey One, who was finishing in the place reserved for the runner up for the third time in a row, and Loco Grande, an 8-1 shot, won by a length and a quarter from Platin Grounds. Captain Dash was ridden by Michael Byrne and the other two winners by Richard Johnson.

Bargoed's Bernard Llewellyn took the Ladbroke's Handicap Hurdle at this meeting with 9-1 outsider DanceWithTheDevil who scored by 14 lengths from the Evan Williams trained Arguam. Tim Vaughan's Kack Handed took third place.

## Special course for sports coaches

SPORTS coaches and volunteers are invited to sign up for a 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport' course that is being held at the Civic Offices in Barry on Thursday, November 3 from 6pm to 9pm.

The 'Sportscoach UK' workshop will help participants recognise the signs of abuse and the difference between good and poor practice and will advise on how to deal sensitively and effectively with issues that may arise.

The course costs £23, including the cost of an accompanying book. The deadline for enrolling is Thursday, October 20.

To book a space, contact Julie Morgan in the Vale Council's sports and play development team on 01446 704748.

The course has a recommended minimum age of 18, unless Sport Wales have been notified and 16 to 18 year-olds are accompanied by a parent/guardian, coach or mentor (aged over 18).

## CALLING CLUB OFFICIALS!

We welcome your club's reports, news and other items of interest.

Email us at:

gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

# Sea View keep unbeaten record

IN weather more suited to beach rugby, Sea View were hosts to Canton RFC.

Avoiding their usual slow start, the View took the game to Canton from the off. Leon Ford crossed the line first after some good hands between forwards and backs.

A Canton infringement at the breakdown gave the View the chance to extend the lead and a well-struck penalty sailed between the uprights to give Sea View a 10-0 lead.

Canton struck back with a well-taken try to reduce the deficit before Josh Barker steamed down the wing to score in the corner for his first try for the club.

With Canton adding a penalty to their score, Sea View led 17-8 at the turn round.

Sea View shot out of the blocks at the start of the second half, a split ball saw the View centres carve a hole in the defence, with Williams

SEA VIEW FIRST XV 38  
CANTON 20

making a 40-metre break before passing to James Braithwaite who rather than risk spoiling his hair diving over the line, selflessly passed to Nathan Harding who scored under the posts.

A lapse in concentration allowed Canton back into the game, and with two tries they closed the gap to 24-20.

Digging deep, the View came back with two more converted tries, one from a move off the back of the scrum, with Cakes scoring under the posts, and for the second, Harding hacked through, chased and with the ball bouncing nicely for him gathered and scored his second try for a final score of 38-20.

Unbeaten in the league with bonus points as well, the View are riding high, a testament to the training regime of Messrs Staniforth, Morgan and Williams.

The Second XV are finding it tough in the restructured league, and a hard away fixture against Rhiwbina saw them lose 68-0. Despite the score-line there were plenty of positives to take from the game.

Even when injury reduced them to 14 they never gave up. The final quarter saw some decent attacks with Nathan Pearson breaking the gain line on several occasions. Matt Ellis made a promising debut at flanker, coming on for the injured Gary Palmer. Special mention also to Julian Evans having his first game for six years!

As always, thanks to our supporters for attending both matches, thanks to Barry Island Sports and Social for post match hospitality. This weekend there are no league fixtures due to cup matches, so our friends from Old Penarthians will be the visitors for a friendly fixture, kick off 2.30pm at the Comp.

MV

## Meet the Vale's new 'active' motivators

TWO new motivators are in place to help inspire teenagers in the Vale to play more sports as part of the 5x60 scheme, and both have their sights on improving activity levels ahead of the London 2012 Olympics.

Chris Ferrier and Rachel Shepherd are the latest additions to the Vale Council's 'Active Young People' team, completing a quartet of 5x60 officers who are working in local secondary schools.

They are tasked with co-ordinating a range of sports during break times, lunch times and after school that help get children active for at least 60 minutes, five days a week (5x60).

The sessions are run in addition to the PE classes that pupils receive, and teens are encouraged to carry on with the activities they like by joining community clubs.

Former Welsh junior international gymnast Rachel Shepherd has recently returned to her home town of Barry having spent the past eight years working in sports development roles across England.

She is now flying the 5x60 flag in both Bryn Hafren and St Richard Gwyn secondary schools and among her aims is to entice older girls into taking part in sports by providing Zumba and fitness-based classes.

Chris Ferrier has a

strong background in sports coaching and will be using his experience of being involved in several sports including badminton, football, golf and rugby, to help the pupils at Cowbridge and Llantwit Major secondary schools hit the recommended exercise targets.

Chris and Rachel join Vale Council's two other 5x60 officers, namely Pete O'Sullivan (Stanwell and St Cyres) and Steffan Williams (Bro Morgannwg and Barry).

## Youngsters in 'feisty' derby clash

Dinas A v Dinas B under-13 Cup

IN a feisty encounter between the two Dinas under-13 teams, the A team eventually beat the B team 4-2 in the first round of the Cup, after extra time was needed.

However, the B team took a 1-0 lead with a well worked goal by Will Union, following an excellent cross by Aled George.

The independent ref then awarded a penalty to the A team which was superbly saved by the B team keeper, Ben Karatas, to maintain the B team's lead just before half time.

Ben had a superb match between the sticks.

At the start of the second half, Conor Walton pounced on a mistake by the A team defence to make it 2-0 to the Bs and the big upset looked on, though neutrals felt there was very little difference between both

With 10 minutes to go, the A team managed to get a goal back and the B team defence began to come under a lot of pressure.

In the last couple of minutes, the pressure told and the A team got the equaliser, and extra time beckoned.

The A team proved their superior fitness and managed to score two goals in extra time, to take their place in the next round of the Cup.

The B team coach Huw George said: "I'm extremely proud of all the boys today, and they fought to the very end, and are very unlucky not to still be in the Cup."

"I want to offer my congratulations to the Dinas A team and their coach Wayne, and we hope they all the way and win the Cup."

CW

## Pontypool power pack to tip the balance

Vale Schools 7, Pontypool Schools 19

THE first of the schools' district under-11 matches for the Vale was at home in Penarth on a sunny day in

October!

The conditions were perfect for running rugby and the new Vale squad was eager to get some competitive rugby.

The home side were put under pressure from the kick off as the large Pooler group of players won the ball at the

breakdown and set up attacking phases in the Vale's 22. Sturdy defence kept out the visitors, but after 10 minutes the home side could not get out of their own half.

Good handling from a sharp set of Pontypool backs let in the right wing to show his speed and run in a well-deserved try.

The visitors were getting control of the game in the forward battle, which set up a good platform for some three-quarter moves.

The Vale's tackling had to be on top form and some hard hitting kept the scoring down. The pressure was immense and it was only a matter of time before the visitors ran in two similar tries to lead 19-0 at the half-time whistle.

With rolling subs from both sides, the second period started with the same ferocity as the first but it was the Vale who pressurised the Pontypool 22. With some excellent fringe play the Vale backs, now showing some class with great combinations, terrorised the try line.

The visitors, to their credit put in the tackles to keep the score the same but with a terrific run and excellent support play and off loading out of the tackle the Vale went over for well deserved try.

Changing some positions for this developing side certainly worked and they began dominating the breakdowns and a great come back was on the cards.

Time was against the Vale and although they almost went over for two more scores, the game ended with the Pontypool District schools worthy winners. A good start to a long and tough season.

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## 'Driving with the roof down does wonders for the soul'

THE slogan from the outdoor advertising campaign for the Renault Mégane Coupe-Cabriolet, humorously and memorably refers to the car's magnificent panoramic glass roof – successfully setting it apart from metal-topped competitors like Peugeot, Ford and Vauxhall.

Inside, the two-door Renault 1.9 dCi (130bhp) Dynamique TomTom has a black sunblind that neatly pulls over its darkened roof in case the sun does shine a little too strongly. There's clearly no need for this in the UK but it will be of use on the continent, I would imagine.

The comfortable black leather seats are appropriate for this vehicle because if they get wet they can be easily wiped



*The Renault Mégane Coupe-Cabriolet*

down. In fact, the whole dark interior has been designed with the elements firmly in mind.

I'm unsure why the button to switch the cruise control on and off is located by the handbrake. Wouldn't it be easier to either remove this switch altogether as the cruise controls are on the steering wheel?

While there are rear seats, they are really only suitable for little ones.

The boot, which has to accommodate the roof when it's down, is only large enough for small items, certainly not my daughter's pushchair, which has to be stowed inside the car.

Driving with the roof down does wonders for the soul and general wellbeing. So often when making my way to work in the mornings, my head and heart are still in bed. Get in the Mégane CC, drop the electric roof – a slick operation carried out in around 30 seconds – put your foot down and it really does invigorate and lifts the spirits.

The roof is only operational if the luggage cover is pulled across your belongings in the boot and the driver must make sure there are no cars parked immediately behind, as the boot moves outwards and could cause expensive

repair bills!

Hacking the roof off a car can compromise stiffness and that has a knock-on effect in the way it drives.

The Mégane CC, which is 25 per cent heavier than a standard Mégane, does suffer a bit.

Today's cabriolets are a huge improvement on those of the 1980s and 90s, where there was an unsightly anti-roll bar in the centre. In these days of high fuel prices I am pleased to see that Renault has fitted a punchy, economical 1.9-litre diesel together with a six-speed box. The fact that it has an enormous 60-litre fuel tank means that it will easily cover 700 miles on a tank.

Renault first introduced a Mégane Cabriolet in 1999, but this version had a canvas roof and was in production until 2003. The revised Mégane Cabriolet started the fashion of the harder-wearing, more secure retractable hard top. The latest version launched in 2010.

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by Tim Saunders



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# GEM sport

## WELSH DEFENCE KEY AS IRISH SENT BACK TO THE EMERALD ISLE... NOW ONLY FRANCE (AND OZ) BLOCK WAY TO FINAL WITH CARTER-LESS KIWIS

**N**O sooner had the referee's whistle concluded the last of the pool match qualifiers that set up the clash of the Celts in Saturday's quarter finals of the Rugby World Cup, than the world games began - with the Irish camp artfully letting it be known that they "knew how to beat Wales".

There was some justification for this, given that they had done it on more than one occasion - in fact, 10 times out of the previous 15 encounters alone, with Wales winning just five - including the Grand Slam years of 2005 and 2008.

With the exception of Ireland's record 54-10 win in Dublin on February 3, 2002, they have invariably been close-fought affairs, with barely a handful of points separating the two rivals from either side of the Irish Sea.

Going into Saturday's quarter finals, the record books also showed that despite long years in the rugby wilderness, Wales still headed the wins table with 63 to Ireland's 47 - plus six matches drawn.

For the two camps at Wellington on Saturday, it was déjà vu - they had been there before in a pool match at the inaugural World Cup in 1987.

Wales won 13-6, then defeated England, before falling to the home team and eventual winners in the semi-finals - but defeated

### BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

Australia in the third place play-off.

The question now was - would history repeat itself in 2011?

Warren Gatland's young guns answered this in ruthlessly-emphatic style by destroying Ireland's veteran Old Guard 22-10, with a quite stunning display of hugely-committed, high intensity rugby that had even neutral observers singing their praises as the dark horses of this global tournament.

Unlike so many times in the past when sluggish Welsh teams have either struggled to get out of the starting blocks and been forced to chase the game after being caught cold; or have run out of steam long before full time, this superbly-fit squad have now shown themselves to be made of sterner stuff - both mentally and physically.

It would thus be no exaggeration to say that Saturday's game may well come to be seen as a defining landmark on the road to a long-awaited Welsh revival.

It began within three minutes of the kick-off, with a sweeping movement into Irish territory that culminated in Shane Williams slipping in at the corner for his 56th international try, which was converted by Rhys Priestland - who reinforced his claim to the outside half shirt with another impeccable display - on a day when every Welsh player again stood up to be counted.



ABOVE: Jamie Roberts, again a colossus in midfield, celebrating the quarter final victory with Leigh Halfpenny.

PICTURE BY HUV EVANS AGENCY

Coolness personified, the young Scarlet has sidelined the tiresome media debate over whether veteran Stephen Jones or versatile James Hook should be at No. 10. (The former was not in the match 22 and the latter made a late appearance from the bench - though he is far too talented to remain on the sidelines for long).

Gatland's team sheet included other big calls, such as Leigh Halfpenny moving to full back, which brought an immediate divi-

dend when he landed a long-range penalty in reply to one by Ronan O'Gara, that made the half time score 10-3.

Within minutes of the restart, Ireland hit back with a well-taken try by wing Keith Earls, converted by O'Gara, which levelled matters at 10-10.

Ireland had strangely declined to use the accurate boot of O'Gara to punish infringements, preferring instead to go for tries which foundered on a ferocious Welsh defence.

Instead, it was Wales who moved further ahead through an opportunist blindside try by man-of-the-match Mike Phillips (now happily restored to top form after his off-field travails).

Priestland's conversion attempt hit an upright, but he made amends when converting a third Welsh try in the final 15 minutes by Jonathan Davies, who had resumed his effective centre partnership with the outstanding Jamie Roberts, as the green challenge petered out - and Wales celebrated a momentous result that takes them into the semi finals at Auckland for the first time in 24 years.

Unlike 1987, they will not be facing hapless England, but erratic France, who lost two matches in the pool stages and yet were able to overcome Martin Johnson's uninspiring troops 19-12 in Saturday's other quarter final at

Eden Park.

Les Bleus have reportedly been riven by discontent off the field, but Wales will still need to be wary of that renowned 'Gallic unpredictability'.

However, Gatland and his fellow coaches have now created a potent fighting force built on an iron-clad, aggressive defence. On current form, if they can now maintain impetus and the consistency that has proved so elusive in the past, there is no reason why they should not overcome the remaining obstacle to a place in the World Cup final. This, barring a huge upset, should be against hosts New Zealand, who face Australia in the other semi final.

The Kiwis, a weakened force without the injured Dan Carter, were flattered by the 33-10 scoreline against dogged Argentina in Sunday's quarter finals; while Australia, who were well beaten by Ireland in the pool stages, scraped an 11-9 win - against the run of play - over defending champions South Africa.

With this young Welsh team's confidence growing by the day, as the RWC 2011 tournament enters the crucial last stages, they now need fear no-one.

First, though, they must overcome the French - and all eyes will be on the team announcement today to see if, injuries permitting, Gatland says 'same again', or opts to make more surprise changes for another momentous day in Welsh rugby history.

## Athletic in fine form with bonus point win

**FOLLOWING** a woeful performance at UWIC, the Bridgend Athletic selectors kept only five players from the starting line-up for the visit of league leaders Carmarthen Athletic.

They picked a jumbo pack to counteract the physicality of the West Wales side, with a second row pairing of 19 stone locks Jamie Doherty and Paul Jones. Only full-back Rhys Ward Jones, centre Stuart Morris, prop Rod Apse, lock Paul

Jones and No 8 Griff Davies survived the night of the long knives.

The selection paid off as the pack laid the foundation of a magnificent team performance in a bruising encounter, allowing the backs freedom to run at the opposition, resulting in four tries for a 27-10 bonus point win.

Carmarthen Athletic came closest last season to preventing the Athletic winning all their home games with a 31-all draw at Newbridge Fields, but did not look likely on this occasion to upset the applecart and take the home side's 18-month league ground record.

The home side started strongly, taking the game to the visitors with former youth wing Lewis Harry, making his senior debut, being bundled into touch near the try line.

Fellow wing James Olds also suffered the same fate as the Athletic stretched the game out wide at every opportunity. During this period,

**BRIDGEND ATHLETIC** 27  
**CARMARTHEN ATHLETIC** 10

captain and hooker Simon Mustoe was forced to leave the field with a damaged nose.

Carmarthen then came back at the Athletic but found no way through a determined defence. After 20 minutes, flanker Dan Apsee broke from a ruck near halfway into the opposition 22 and found outside-half Tom Cole on his shoulder to receive a scoring pass; Cole converted to put the Athletic ahead.

This was nearly his last action of the game as he pulled a hamstring, to be replaced by 19-year-old Corey Butler.

Good driving forward play, with the front row of Rod Apsee, Stuart Nation and Matthew Norman prominent, provided quick ball for scrum-half Aled Thomas to pass to Butler, who passed on to centres Stuart Morris and debutant Italian Simone Ragusi to put full-back

Rhys Ward Jones racing over in the corner. The try gave the Athletic a 12-0 half-time lead.

Straight after the restart, the Carmarthen outside-half brought his side back in the game with an excellent 45-metre penalty from the touchline.

This spurred the Athletic backs into action and a good drive by lock Jamie Doherty saw livewire scrum-half Aled Thomas break quickly into the 22 and hand on to Rhys Ward Jones to cross for his second try of the match and seventh of the season.

A moment of madness saw Carmarthen reduced to 14 men when a head butt did not escape the referee's notice.

Corey Butler extended the Athletic lead to 20-10 with a penalty goal.

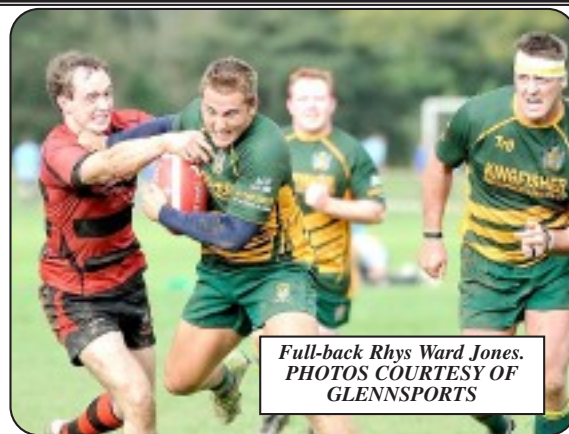
The Athletic were now in the ascendancy and spent the final quarter almost exclusively inside

the visitors' 22. However, from one attack Carmarthen wing Matthew James intercepted 10 metres from his own try line and, showing great pace, raced the length of the field to cross under the posts for a try, converted by scrum-half Scott Maynard.

Good work by back row forwards Griff Davies and Johnny Jones saw wing Lewis Harry put his foot in touch five metres from the try line.

From the final lineup of the game, hooker Stuart Nation pounced on a loose Carmarthen throw into the lineup to crash over wide out for a well-deserved bonus point try. Corey Butler converted to move the Athletic to fifth place in the table, and put the side in good heart for this Saturday's local derby visit to Llanharan.

Veteran lock Paul Jones was voted the Athletic man of the match. Scrum-half Aled



Full-back Rhys Ward Jones. PHOTOS COURTESY OF GLENNSPORTS

Thomas was also very prominent as was ever dependable centre Stuart Morris, nursing his partner Simone Ragusi through his first experience of Welsh rugby.

Replacements Matthew Hillman, Dan Suter and Lloyd Evans also played a part in the Athletic's best performance to date in the league.

The club are again indebted to their former 'Old Boys' for their continued loyalty in sponsoring the fixture. AB



Hooker Stuart Nation scores.

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